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THE HISTORY OF JACKSON TOWNSHIP  
SULLIVAN COUNTY, INDIANA

by

The Senior English Class

Hymera High School

1915

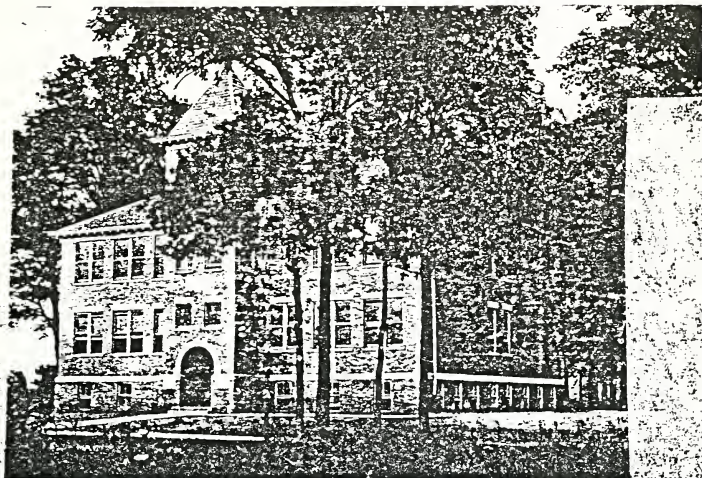
Eunice Asbury - English Teacher

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HYMERA HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING.

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## **ERRATA**

Chapter 1, page 2, Forty-four square miles in the township instead of fifty-four.

Chapter 1, page 2. Property of the township is assessed at about \$1,800,000 instead of \$1,000,800.

Chapter 1, page 3. Henry R. Wallace was at one time trustee of the township. Name omitted in the list.

Chapter 2, page 14. George T. Duckworth, civil war veteran is living in the state of Oklahoma.



# DEDICATION

To those pioneers who came to our township when it was a wilderness and braved the hardships of life at that time, in order to establish homes here; to those who have lived before us and made it possible for us to enjoy the blessings of life that we have today; and to our fathers and mothers whose untiring sacrifice has made it possible for us to be here in school today, we the Senior English Class of the Hymera High School, lovingly dedicate this little book.

Hymera, Ind., April 8, 1915.

Dear Reader:—

No doubt you have noticed that the old pioneers of our township are passing away and that the link between the long ago and now will soon be severed. We are very busy with today, so busy that we often forget that today is only made possible by those who labored before us. In the business and commercial world we discard all things that have lived past their usefulness and sometimes we show the same neglect and ingratitude toward the old people that are left with us. They have traveled a great distance along the road we call life and have seen much in passing. They have gathered much which they will gladly give us for the asking and yet we pass them day after day without thinking of this. Out over the country are old landmarks that are passing, too. Soon there will be nothing left to call to us from the time when the country was new. In order to preserve some of the stories and traditions of the long ago and arouse interest in the collection and preservation of records that pertain to the history of our township, we have compiled this little volume. You will perhaps find it very meagre and often inaccurate. This is due to our mistakes and in part to the fact that the people who have helped us have disagreed as to dates and names, so

we trust that you will read with a generous spirit. Yet if our little volume inspires one person who reads it to be more thoughtful of our old people or to take more care of our old landmarks and relics of the past; if it inspires just one to make record of our time before it passes, for those who come later, we shall feel that we have labored in a good cause. In this little volume we have made only a beginning but later we may be able to correct, revise, and enlarge this history. In regard to the biographies we would like to say that on account of the lack of space it was necessary to limit the number to include only the very oldest residents of the township, excepting the biographies of Mr. Nead and Mr. Williams. Their biographies are here by virtue of their offices. Mr. Nead was trustee during the first half of the school year when the history was written and helped us very much in many ways, and Mr. Williams has been our trustee during the last half of the year while we were getting it ready for the publishers. It may be that in collecting the biographies we have omitted some that should have been given. If this is true it has not been done purposely. We certainly appreciate the encouragement and assistance that has been given us and have elsewhere made mention of the people who have rendered it.

THE SENIOR ENGLISH CLASS,  
Hymera High School.

In gathering material for history, we found the people of the township ever ready to give assistance in every way they could. In acknowledgement of their service and our gratitude to them, we give their names below:

F. M. Nead, Nathan Hinkle, S. H. Nicholson, Self, Kenneth Self, John Halberstadt, William Mahan, Charles Mahan, Jallie McAnally, C. J. McAnally, D. Y. Thralls, Joe Tip-ton, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Asbury, James B. McCaunton, Wesley Ma-



han, Mrs. James Biggs, Miss Maggie Biggs, Edward Stewart, J. W. Zink, Henry Barnhart, Nathaniel Nelson, Mrs. Jane Halberstadt, Ben Bridwell, Frank Bolt, Charles McGarvey, Mrs. Mary Peterson, Mamie Shepherd, Nellie Shepherd, Frank Curry, Joe Curry, John Curry, Mrs. Jane Curry, W. T. Nelson, George Shepherd, Martin Badders, Clarke Richardson, W. A. Stewart, R. L. Ladd, I. E. Gouckenour, A. L. Somer, A. B. Gouckenour, A. P. Asbury, Rev. M. O. Robbins, James Shoemaker, Susan Beckett, Samuel G. Mahan, Mrs. Mary Crawford, Albert Zink, Dr. Plew, James Nicholson, E. A. Marratta, Harlow Slack, Mr. and Mrs., Samuel Cole, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Asbury, Icy Strable, Myrtle Nicholson, Chas. Bennett, Mary J. Beckett, R. P. Beckett, Mrs. John H. Mahan, Mrs. R. P. Beckett, Lottie Burris, Chester Bosstick, Charles VanArsdall, Katherine Nead, Gilbert Beckett, Robert Hinkle, Cary Littlejohn, James Luzader, J. R. Sharp, S. R. Brown, G. T. Bruncker, Albert Cramer, John G. Barnett, Wm. Harvey, Isaac Mahan, James Barnett, Dale Watts, Mrs. Vick Tipton, Mrs. Sarah Jane Asbury.

### Chapter I. JACKSON TOWNSHIP.

Jackson Township is located in the northeast corner of Sullivan County and contains fifty-four square miles. This tract was organized into a township about 1825 during Jackson's administration and was named in honor of the President. At that time the township was almost an unbroken forest excepting a small tract of flat clay prairie in the southeastern part known as the "Tennis Prairie." With the exception of a tract of land in the east central portion known as the "Hickory Flats", the land in the township is rolling. The soil is principally clay, and the drainage is good. The principal creeks are Busseron, which enters the northern part of township and flows south through the township; and Shepherd Creek which enters the northeastern part, and flows southwest across the township.

In the pioneer days, farming was the principal industry of the township, but within the last twenty-<sup>7</sup> years farming has given precedence to coal mining. Within the last four years however a number of mines have been worked out and abandoned, and for that reason farming is again coming into more prominence. The farmers are beginning to look more towards the scientific side of farming and their labors are being rewarded. In 1912 the farmers of the township held their first township institute. The second was held in 1913 and the last in Nov of 1914. So far, the institute has not been able to accomplish a great deal but as the organization grows, both in numbers and in age it will no doubt be able to reach and help every farmer in the township. A. W. Hayes, the County Agent of Agriculture, says that since the mining industry is on the wane that there is a great promise for farming in the future. His article found elsewhere in this history, tells how Jackson Township may climb to the front agriculture.

Besides the farming and <sup>mining</sup> our township also has within its borders a powder mill for the manufacture of explosives, the history of which is given elsewhere.

In the early days there were practically no roads, but Jackson Township today has thirty miles of improved stone roads, and about seventy miles of clay roads.

The population of the township is about forty-five hundred. It is made up chiefly of Americans, although there are several French, Hungarians, Russians and Germans.

There are eleven districts in the township, and in all over a thousand school children are enrolled. The property of the township is assessed at one-million, eight hundred dollars.

In the early days the school and civil affairs of the township were managed by a board of three trustees. In 1856 these trustees were Nathan Hinkle, Samuel Patton and Hosea Payne. In 1863 a single trustee took the place of the three.





Some of the trustees of township since 1863 are Nathan Hinkle, John Thomas, Boylston Ladd, James Plew, V. D. Cummins, Sr., Thomas Stark, T. J. Scott, Joe Asbury, Sam-  
well Mahan, James Sanders, F. M. Head and W. J. Williams.

The township was first settled in the early part of the last century. The names of some of the first families to find homes here were Pitt, Cannon, Plew, Brown, Hughbanks Cochran, Hinkle, Manwar-  
ring Ring, Payne, Shepherd, Asbury Zink, Nicholson, Halberstadt, Biggs, Wence, Sills, Mc-  
Clary and Neff.

The first settlement of the township, in each household every industry was represented, but later it came to be more of a division of labor and then there were besides farmers, many tanners, car-  
penters, wagon-makers, cooperers, shoemakers, and blacksmiths. Some of the first cooperers were John John-  
ston, William Breetlove, John Wood, William Mahan, Thomas Mahan and Walter Asbury. One of the early  
tanners was Mr. Heck. Some of the

shoemakers were Frank Stock, Mr. Story and John Wilson. Some of the early carpenters were John-  
ston Thomas, John Ford, Walter Asbury and George Barnett. At first there were no sawmills and every  
piece of timber that went into a house had to be made by a carpen-  
ter. The first boards were sawed by means of a whipsaw which was op-  
erated by two men. The piece of lumber to be sawed was placed on a  
block and one man stood above and one man below and sawed to a  
line marked on either side of the block. In the early days no finished  
lumber could be purchased so that every piece of lumber had to be  
dressed by a carpenter by means of a hand plane. The buildings put to-  
gether by the old time carpenters were much better than they do to-  
day. Nails at that time were very scarce so all joints were mortised  
and the roofs were often fastened with weight poles. Later some of  
the roofs were made in the style known as the "lap shingle roof"

which lasted much better than the roofs of today. There are through the township some old buildings with roofs of this sort. Perhaps the first frame house in the township was Mr. William Pitt's, the house in which Nathan Hinkle lives at present. Mr. Pitt sawed with a hand saw, each piece of weather boarding on this house. The shingles were made of walnut. They were removed only a few years ago, having been on the house for seventy-five years. Another old house and one of the first frame houses of the township is Mr. Isaac Mahan's house. Each piece of timber used in this house was made by the carpenter. Other phases of the life in the early days is best described in a story as told by a pioneer resident of the township. It is as follows:

#### A STORY OF PIONEER LIFE IN JACKSON TOWNSHIP.

In the good old days, as they are often wrongly called, there were no comforts and very few necessities as we consider them today. The first settlers who came to this town-  
ship found a wilderness in which they constructed rude log huts from round logs. Later, however, almost all the settlers had houses built of hewed logs. The roofs were covered with clapboards and the chimneys were made of sticks and clay. The  
chinks between the logs, both inside and out, were daubed with coarse plaster made of clay and lime and the walls were whitewashed.

It was in just such a house that I was born—a house composed of one immense room. In the center of one side of this room was a large fire-  
place, four feet high and five feet across. Into this, on cold winter evenings, the wood was piled high and the evenings we spent about it are a part of the joyous side of the long ago. But when we tell of the old fireplaces we forget how much chopping it took to supply them with wood.

It was at th's same fireplace that we cooked our meals. I was a large girl before we owned a stove, yet we did not mind, for our neighbors had



none, either. The fireplace had a crane upon which we hung an iron teakettle in which we boiled water; or an iron pot in which we prepared our boiled dinners.

The baking and frying of food were done in large skillets or ovens, under which and over which, live coals were placed. A great many people who are living today have seen the old covered skillets in which corn-dodger was baked. This, with a crock of good sweet milk, made an excellent supper. I have never since those days tasted anything so good as the corn-dodger and milk that we used to eat about the fire on cold winter evenings. There was also the Johnny-cake that we baked on boards especially prepared for that purpose. This kind of bread has often been lauded in stories of the olden times, but it was not nearly so delicious as the dodger.

We did not have such a variety of food in those days as we do now, but there was always plenty of it and it was genuine. In those days we never heard of adulterations and substitutes for good wholesome food, so we did not need pure food laws and food inspectors. Meat, which today is about to pass from a necessary diet to a luxury, could then be produced in plenty by every family. There were always pork, smoked beef, venison and small game in every larder. There were no canned goods. I was a woman grown before I ever saw a fruit can, yet we had plenty of pies in the winter, for every housewife during the summer dried a sufficient quantity of apples, peaches, cherries and pumpkin to last through the winter.

I imagine you are wondering where such fruit was to be found in the old pioneer days. Every family which came into this new country carried with them fruit-tree sprouts and fruit seeds which they planted out around their cabins in the wilderness. They did not have the fine varieties of budded fruit that we have now, but the seedling trees, as they were called, brought forth fruit that surpassed in flavor any we

have today. Fruit then was never sold but was freely given by those who had orchards, to their less fortunate neighbors. Many of the old settlers had cider mills which supplied the homes with cider and vinegar.

We also had all kinds of vegetables with the exception of tomatoes, which we did not know were good for food. I can remember very well the first tomatoes we ever ate and how sparingly we ate of them at first. Our vegetables such as cabbage, potatoes, turnips, parsnips and beets we buried in mounds in the garden from which we took them as we needed them during the winter.

We did not have very many things to drink with our food. Children usually drank milk but the older people drank coffee except during the war when it was so high priced that they could not afford it. They then made a substitute for coffee by using parched corn, wheat, and other grain. It tasted very much like the Postum of today.

The crop of hazel and hickory nuts was much larger than it is now so that we always had plenty to eat as we sat about the fire on winter evenings telling riddles and singing songs. We did not have any piano. Indeed we did not know there was such an instrument, but we sang the old ballads, folk songs and hymns without any accompaniment except the crackling of the fire in the old fireplace.

We often told stories but we did not read much, for our library was small. It consisted of the Bible, Pilgrim's Progress, and the Almanac. When I was almost grown we subscribed for the Cincinnati Inquirer, a newspaper which came with each mail which was once a week. These we read by the light of a candle for we did not even have kerosene lamps until later and then we were almost afraid to use them.

We made all our own candles. We had a candle mold which made a dozen candles at one time. Into these molds we put wicks and then filled the molds with melted tallow



which soon hardened and the candles were then ready for use.

I imagine I can hear some child who reads this say that he wishes he could have lived in those good old days. It does seem good as we tell of the joyous side, but there was another side—a hard, struggling, pinching, dark side that you would not want to go back to, after having enjoyed the comforts and opportunities of nineteen hundred and fifteen.

When bedtime came we went to our bedrooms which were just opposite the fireplace on the other side of the big room. Here were two immense four poster bedsteads so large that I could not climb into bed until I was a large girl, without first climbing upon a chair or stool. The springs of these beds were made of cords that creaked as the sleeper moved about. Upon these cords were mattresses of straw and immense feather beds and pillows. We slept beneath heavy woolen blankets and comforts. On top were curiously woven coverlids. Yet we never once dreamed as we slept that a day would come when money could not buy one of these same coverlids. We just dived into these soft beds and knew nothing till morning. You young people may have your mattresses and boards if you like but give me an old fashioned feather bed to really rest upon.

I know you are wondering where we all slept, for there were a great many of us as there always were in every family in those days. Well, beneath those high four posters were trundle beds that were drawn out at night and with the help of these a large family could be accommodated in small quarters.

How would you like to climb out of this warm bed on a cold morning, upon a floor made of boards with great cracks through which the cold came, and find it covered with snow that had sifted through the chinks of the wall during the night? No doubt you would do just as we did, run up to the fire as quickly as possible and get what comfort it could give.

The question of dress was hardly

the problem then that it is now. The girls wore homespun flannel dresses in winter and calico dresses in summer; while the boys wore jeans suits in winter and linen suits in summer. The shoes they wore were not made especially for beauty; in fact, beauty was entirely overshadowed by the question of service. Each fall father purchased a side of leather and took it to the shoemaker of the neighborhood and had boots and shoes made for the whole family. The lasts he used were not triple A's, the heels were not French and the flexibility of the sole was never thought of. Indeed, after wearing them for awhile they became as hard and set in shape as if they had been made of rock. Yet the shoes of those times never hurt the feet of the wearer, for the custom was never to make a shoe the size of the foot but at least one number longer and wider. This left room for the coarse yarn stockings that were worn in winter and also for the shrinking and hardening of the leather caused by exposure to the water, for we never heard of overshoes in those days. The boots often got so hard and stiff that it took a great deal of kicking and stamping to get them on and after getting them on it was almost impossible to get them off. It was to remedy this difficulty that the boot-jack was invented. It became the boy's best friend at night time.

Would you like to take another look into the old house of the long ago? I can see it just as if it were only yesterday that I had come from there. The walls were whitewashed and in the early spring at house-cleaning time looked very white, but during the following winter they became streaked with yellow by the rain and snow that were blown through the chinks between the logs.

On the mantle above the big fireplace was a large old Seth Thomas eight-day clock which was about the only ornament in the room. Beside it on the wall hung the almanac. On either side of the mantle beside the clock were candle sticks.



The furniture in this room was all home-made, that is, made by cabinet makers of the neighborhood, and much of it was unpainted. The chairs were made of maple with split bottoms. Some of the splits were of hickory bark, some of oak, and some of willow. We also had baskets made of these materials. The chairs were not painted and it was my painful duty to scrub them with sand and soap every Saturday. They were very white when I had finished, but it was a long, tiresome job. The floor, on which we never had any carpet until I was grown, also had to be cleaned with sand and soap.

We had school during the months of December, January and February, which we attended when we could be spared from other work. I reached the fifth grade as the schools were graded then. During the first year I studied the spelling book only, and during the rest of my school days, I spent the greater part of the time on Reading, Writing,

Spelling and Arithmetic.

I wish I could take your Senior Class from your beautiful high school building with all its accommodations and comforts, back sixty years to the little log school house which I entered on my first day of school. It was built of logs, had a large open fireplace, and was very much like the dwelling houses except that it had a puncheon floor and was filled with puncheon seats, that is, seats made of logs split through the middle and placed down smooth on the split surface which became the seat. These seats had no backs and when I first entered school my feet would not reach the floor. You can scarcely imagine how tired I became before the day was over. I was always very glad when our class was called to recite or when it came our turn to take our writing lesson. There were benches placed along the side of the wall, just high enough to write upon by standing. It was here that we made our copies of the perfectly



SENIOR CLASS, HYMERA HIGH SCHOOL.

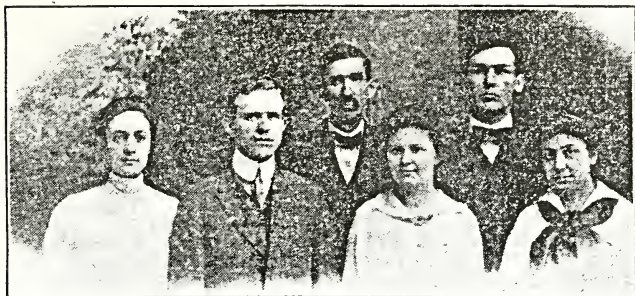
From left to right, top row—Thomas Brunker, Reba Nicholson, Cecile Case, Daisy Mahan. Second row—Lucile Beckett, Effie Mahan, Hobart Gritton, Hilda Chapman, Brouds Lang, Donna Gouckenour.

Third row—Nellie Farley, Beulah Slack, Elizabeth Bailey, Mable Britton, Pauline Beckett, Fern Clark, Ruby Neal. Fourth row—Chloe Syster, John Halberstadt, Flossie McAnally, Dick Bennett, Sylvia Chapman, Jack Tipton.





## HYMERA HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS.



From left to right, top row—W. V. Payne, Superintendent of Schools, J. P. Curry, Manual Training. Lower row—Eunice Asbury, English, R. C. Shields, Latin and German, Mary E. Sheridan, Domestic Science, Naomi Laue, Supervisor of Music and Drawing.

formed letters that the teacher gave us. We used quill pens and home made ink.

I think you will agree with me that the hill of learning was rather long and steep, yet we climbed it as joyfully as you do today. As I look back on these days, I think school was made up principally of spelling, arithmetic and discipline. I cannot remember of ever once being called upon to explain a passage in reading. The prose selections we read as fast as we could until we happened to bump up against a hard word. The teacher helped us over it and on we went, caring nothing about anything but reaching the goal, the end of the paragraph, as soon as possible. Yet I think our reading of poetry was rather more wonderful than this. When I arose to read a poem I stood on one foot, braced myself with the other, and began to read. I read the lines just as you scan poetry except that I swayed back and forth in perfect harmony with the rhythm. Oh, but I was great in reading poetry and reciting it, too, but I never dreamed of its having a meaning! I was never asked to explain the meaning of a single line. But when it comes to spelling

you Seniors fall far short of the grades in the long ago. I will warrant you that any one of our old fifth grade could spell down your whole high school and you teachers, too, for that matter. Perhaps the reason we were better spellers than you are today is due to a single fact. We studied spelling and spelled several hours during the day. At certain times we were allowed to study our spelling lessons aloud and it was then we gained our wonderful power of concentration. If any one of the rabble should forget just once and cease his study aloud, the noise would overcome him and he would be lost. But if he kept ahead and felt continually the movement of his lips and the sensation of his own voice in his ears, he could make himself perfectly oblivious of his surroundings and feel as the stranger in a crowded thoroughfare, "alone in a crowd".

There were some bright moments in the long tedious hours. These were when we were allowed to sing the capitals and boundaries of the states, and the multiplication table. The following is part of the song of the capitals—the verses for the New England States.



No. 1.

State of Maine, Augusta  
On the Kennebec River  
State of Maine, Augusta  
On the Kennebec River.

No. 2.

Vermont, Montpelier  
On the Onion River  
Vermont, Montpelier  
On the Onion River.

No. 3.

New Hampshire, Concord  
On the Connecticut River  
New Hampshire, Concord  
On the Connecticut River.

No. 4.

Massachusetts, Boston  
On the Boston Harbor  
Massachusetts, Boston  
On the Boston Harbor.

No. 5.

Rhode Island has two capitals  
Providence and Newport  
Rhode Island has two capitals  
Providence and Newport.

In the evenings after school we often had spelling matches, literar-ies, debates, and singing schools at the school house. The song books we used in those days were very un-like those used today. The notes of the scale were all made in a differ-ent manner. For instance, we did not have to know the key or the po-sition of a note to know its name. No two notes of the scale were shaped alike, so that the name of a note could easily be determined by its shape. This rendered our note reading much easier than yours.

The social affairs I have mention-ed were not however all the social life we had. There were log-rollings and quiltings. These usually came in the spring before corn-planting time. Each man would clear a tract of timber land on his farm during the winter, and in the spring he would invite in his neighbors, peo-ple who lived within a radius of five or six miles, to help him roll the logs together to burn. It seems to you now that this was a terrible waste of valuable timber, yet you must remember that timber was ev-erywhere then. Walnut and other valuable trees were often made into rails and no one at that time ever

dreamed that the time would come when those same rails, if they had been preserved, would bring a fabu-lous price. This proves the old ad-age, that the wealth of one genera-tion is often the poverty of the next.

It was at these log-rollings and also at house-raising that the men showed their feats of strength. In Ralph Conner's "Doctor", there is a good description of the same ex-hibitions of strength that we had in the olden time. The women came with the men to these gatherings. They prepared dinner and in the af-ternoon they quilted.

What would you who ride in auto-mobiles think if I should tell you that the first ride I remember tak-ing was behind an ox-team. Oxen were often used when I was a girl but their place was soon taken by horses. When I was grown, almost every one rode horseback. Each member of the family had a saddle and a horse. The girls rode on side-saddles and over their dresses wore long riding skirts. A buggy in those days was as unusual a sight as an aeroplane is today. However, each farmer owned a wagon, a home-made one, that is, one made by a wagon maker of the neighborhood. The harness was also home-made.

You might be interested to know just how we kept busy throughout the different seasons. In January we began work with the flax which had been pulled the summer before while in bloom. We now spread it on the ground to rot the stalk so that we could get the lint. When well rotted, we gathered it up on a dry day and took it through the process of "breaking" to remove the stalk. It was then "swinged" or "scotched" to take out parts of the broken stalk, leaving only the pure flax. We then took it through a coarse hackle to get out the coarsest "tow," then through a fine hackle to get out the fine tow. What was left, which was the pure flax, was then twisted into "hanks" and made ready for spinning.

To prepare for spinning, the flax was first wound upon a distaff. From this it was spun into several differ-



ent sized threads, upon what was then known as the "little wheel," the "big wheel" being used for spinning woolen yarns. The threads according to sizes were woven into linen cloths for tablecloths, towels, sheets and cloth for men's summer trousers. After a piece of linen was taken from the loom it was placed in the dew after night until it was bleached white.

Some of the flax was spun into very fine threads which were doubled and twisted again for sewing thread. These were dyed into the colors needed. The tow, after being spun was woven into cloth for towels, sacks and ticking for straw mattresses.

In February and March came the sugar making. Then all the family who were old enough turned out to camp and helped to make both sugar and syrup to last through the year. We never saw any granulated sugar in those days so we had to make sufficient maple sugar to last until the next season.

Later in the spring came the soap-making time. Then we made soap to last throughout the year. During the winter we placed the ashes from the big fireplace into a hopper for the purpose and kept them moist and under cover to rot them. In the spring we poured water over these ashes, and caught the lye which came from them at the base of the hopper. We then filled a huge iron kettle full of lye and put with it meat cracklings or grease of sufficient quantity, about two gallons to twelve of lye, and boiled the mixture until it was thick enough to make soft soap when cooled. Into some of the mixture we put salt to make the soap hard when cold. This we cut into cakes and put into a dry place. The air acted upon it in such a way as to render it less strong than the liquid soap. This was our toilet soap.

About the middle of May came the sheep-shearing. As soon as the wool was sheared it was washed in warm water, without soap, many times until it was perfectly clean. Then all the burrs and trash were

removed. It was then sent to the carding mill and made into rolls about two and one-half feet long and one-half inch thick. These were spun on the "big wheel" into yarns of different sizes. For the warp of the flannels, we made the yarns fine and hard twisted, but for the woof they were made soft and coarser. For the soft, fluffy blankets, we spun coarse, soft yarns. Sometimes, however, the blankets were woven on cotton warp. The jeans for men's clothing was also made on cotton warp. We usually spun about one hundred pounds of wool during the summer. This took us all summer long. I do not like to remember those long days and my tired feet. You girls of today know nothing about hard work as we knew it in those days.

With the exception of wool used for mixed jeans, all of it was colored after it was spun. For the red dye we purchased madder; for the black, logwood; and for the yellow, copperas and alum. But for other colors we made our dyes, with the exception of the indigo we used with the blue dye. The blue dye, used for coloring both wool and linen, was made in the following way. A material known as blue dye yeast which was kept from year to year, was put in a quantity of water sufficient to make enough dye for the materials to be colored. Into this was put weak lye and wheat bran and the mixture was kept in a warm place for several days, until the yeast had acted upon it. Then indigo was added until the right shade of coloring was obtained. It was then ready for use. Six or eight skeins of the yarn or thread was then put into this dye and left for an hour or more. It was then taken out and dried to see the shade of coloring. It was dipped several times a day for several days. At night, the yarn was hung out in the air and more indigo placed in the dye mixture. Day after day this was repeated until the desired shade of blue was obtained. After the dyeing was finished, a quart of the mixture was taken out and kept until the



dyeing season for the next year. This was known as blue dye yeast.

The brown dye was made from walnut bark. It was gathered in the summer while green and chopped into small pieces. It was then put into a barrel and covered with water and weighted down to keep it under the water. Here it stood for nine days. The water was then poured off and used as dye. Into this the yarn was dipped until it was the shade of brown wanted. To color the thread or yarn green, we first colored it pale blue and then dipped it into a dye made by boiling peach tree leaves in water.

The mixed jeans mentioned above was dyed before spinning. The wool which was to be used was first washed thoroughly and dyed a dark blue color. A small quantity of white wool was then mixed with this blue wool. It was then spun into yarn and woven into a beautiful mixed blue cloth called jeans which was very fashionable at that time for men's clothing. There were very few tailors at that time, so every housewife made the clothing for the men of the family.

There were no sewing machines at that time so all the garments for the family were made by hand. I was a woman grown before we purchased our first sewing machine. It was a Howe.

We not only made cloth for clothing but also braids for hats. Before harvest time we took the unripe wheat and rye straw and wet and braided it. This braid we stitched into shape for men's summer hats. The women wore slit bonnets for every day, but on Sundays they wore braid hats trimmed with artificials. This word may have no meaning for the girl of today but it was freighted with meaning then, for artificials often had to do with religion itself. Some people at that time were as inconsistent as they are today. A great deal was said about wearing artificials upon women's bonnets, yet the men wore hypocrites which were equally as great a sham. A hypocrite was a white shirt front with a collar fas-

tened to it. A man could put on a hypocrite over his every day shirt, put his coat over it and feel very much "dressed up." A certain minister who wore one of these hypocrites was once preaching before a crowded house. He took off his coat and went on preaching and did not understand until the close of the sermon just why his eloquence brought forth so many smiles.

Each winter the men cleared a tract of land for the next year's corn crop. Here also the men showed their feats of strength and skill. The man who could split the most rails was in great demand by the land owners of the neighborhood. Some of the best rail-splitters at that time could cut down the timber and split from one hundred fifty to two hundred rails a day. For this work they received one dollar a day. This was an excellent wage at that time for the ordinary hand required only fifty cents a day.

In the spring after the logs had been burned, the ground was broken up, harrowed, and crossed off both ways in rows three feet apart. The corn was then planted by hand, usually by the boys and girls in the family who were not of sufficient size to perform heavier tasks. My feet ache yet when I think of it. You may talk about "spring fever" now with impunity but we were not allowed time in which to catch it.

Besides corn, the farmers raised wheat, buckwheat, rye, and oats. The wheat was first cut with a reap hook, but later a scythe and cradle was used. An excellent reaper could cut from three to five acres a day with a scythe and cradle. For this work he received the fabulous wage of from one dollar to one dollar and a half a day.

At first the wheat was threshed by a flail but later it was tramped out by horses and at a still later date it was threshed by a "ground hob" thresher run by horses. This left both wheat and chaff so that it was necessary to take it to a fan mill in order to separate the wheat from the chaff. Then came the separator drawn by ten horses.





The men at that time made all their own barrels. To do this they rove staves of oak and let them season. They then trimmed them into shape, making them wide in the middle and narrow at each end. This was done in order to make the barrel wider in the middle. The staves were then listed or cut so that the inner edge of the stave was narrower than the outer edge. They were then put together and by means of a tress hoop they were drawn into shape, and hickory hoops put on. In order to draw them into shape a small fire of shavings was built inside the barrel. When the staves were steaming hot they were drawn into shape and the hoops fastened. Around the upper and lower edges of these staves chimes were cut in which were fitted the head and bottom of the barrel.

The land in those days was unfenced, excepting the cleared fields where grain was raised. Since the farms were so far apart, this left great tracts of unbroken forest. The hogs, cattle, and sheep belonging to the different farmers were branded and left free to roam over the country and feed upon the grass and nuts. In the fall each farmer would round up his stock. The hogs grew fat upon the nuts or the mast as it was called, and needed very little corn to make them ready for meat.

During the winter the men spent a great deal of time in hunting deer, turkey, and other game which also furnished meat for the table. They also hunted for sport for in those days there were no greater sports than the fox chase, the coon hunt, and the 'possum hunt.

In the early days before much of the land had been cleared there was a great deal of sickness, especially chills and fevers. They were caused by the mosquitos from the swamps but we did not know it then. Doctors were few and far between so that each family made its own medicine and prescribed for its patients. During the autumn months housewives gathered the roots of the snake-root, alicampane, rhubarb, bearvine, comfrey, ginseng, wahoo,

blood-root and yellow-root; the seeds of mustard and flax; the leaves of thyme, sage, tansy, cammomile, mint, hops, horehound, catnip, pennyroyal, and mullen; and the bark of prickley ash, dog-wood, cherry, willow, quakenasp, and sarsaparilla. From these they made teas, bitters, poultices, and what not, that cured all the ills incident to pioneer life. From the hops they made not only medicine but also yeast. To make the yeast they boiled the hops and strained the tea. They then scalded a little flour and put in some yeast. This was mixed with meal and rolled into cakes and dried.

I have pictured to you some things of the long ago, some of its joys, and some its hardships. We who lived in those times have long ago forgotten much of the hardships and it is well that we have. While there was much of physical labor in those days, there was less of care and worry than now, yet life is very much the same, whether lived in the long ago or now. For life is very much as we make it.

The following is a partial list of the soldiers who have at some time lived in this township:

#### Revolutionary War

Hinkle, Nathan, Sr., deceased.

#### The War of 1812.

Asbury, Landman, deceased.

#### Mexican and Civil Wars.

Pierson, H. T., deceased.

#### The Civil War.

Asbury, Squire W.

Asbury, Joseph

Asbury, A. P.

Barcus, Joel M.

Barcus, Sol G., deceased.

Brock, Elijah.

Barcus, Thomas G.

Baldrige, D. L.

Barnhart, Henry

Bemis, Ezra, deceased

Bridwell, Benjamin

Cochran, Nicholas H.

Denton, Robert

Dell, Milton C.

Duckworth, Geo. T.

Engle, Mason, deceased.

Ford, Lyman, deceased

Ford, John, deceased

Gilman, Wm., deceased



Gilman, Ichabod  
Gorby, Pierce, deceased  
Hamilton, Alexander  
Hinkle, Nathan  
Hughes, Henry M.  
Heck, John  
Harvey, W. W.  
Johnson, W. E.  
Johnson, Jas., deceased  
Lyons, Thomas  
Lyons, Wm. H., deceased  
Marshall, Singleton  
McAnally, Cary J.  
McAnally, John  
Mahan, John R.  
Mahan, Jno. J.  
McAnally, Thos. J.  
Nead, John, deceased

Nead, Jacob, deceased  
Nead, Uriah, deceased  
Nead, John W., deceased  
Nicholson, S. H.  
Nelson, John  
Payne, Joseph  
Payne, James A.  
Payne, Mosback  
Patton, Samuel  
Ring, Noah, deceased  
Sink, L. D.  
Spear, Jno. A.  
Snowden, John  
Swift, Richard K., deceased  
Sills, Wm. H., deceased  
Screen, John  
Tipton, John  
Worth, John, deceased







Some of the first students who attended here were John W. Boston, James M. Boston, Preston Sills, Louis Brown, Nancy Pierson, Sarah Pierson, Jack Watts, Elizabeth Sills, Squire W. Asbury, William H. H. Asbury, Mary Jane Asbury, Joseph Asbury, Mary Ann Pierson and John Brown. Some who came a little later were William Heady, Preston Stout, Eugene Heady, Taylor Watts, Lucy Asbury, Elizabeth Asbury, Geo. Mahan, John Mahan, Lemuel Mahan, Anna Mahan, Helen Mahan, Winfield Stewart, Louisa Smith, Mandy Smith, Eliza Ann Smith, Joseph Freeze, Mary Anne Stout, Dora Stout, Joseph Stout, Steven McHaffy, Agnes McHaffy, Alec Canoy, Rebecca Canoy, Matt Duckworth, Benj. Mahan, Mary Stout, Wesley Mahan and Howard Mahan.

The second school building was a frame structure built about 1874. It was situated where the present brick house stands. Some of the teachers who taught here were John McDonald, William Grant, Ves Baldrige, Thomas Kennedy, Thomas Berlien, Mandy Gritton and Clid Sills.

The present brick building was erected in 1894 and the teachers and students who have been associated with this building are well known to every one in the township.

About 1870 a brick kiln was owned and operated by David McGrew. It was located on the McGrew farm, near Mt. Pleasant Cemetery and the ruins of the kiln are still discernible.

There is one rock road in this district which extends along the east and south sides of the northwest section of the district. The road is 3 miles in length and was built in 1906.

There are a few buildings of the town of Lewis that are located in this district. They are the Masonic Hall and the dwelling houses belonging to John Scott, John Boston, Dr. Cruikshank, Mrs. Woodrow and Mrs. Pierson.

Some of the soldiers who enlisted from this district when the Civil

War broke out were Geo. Duckworth, William Sills, and Welman Stewart, all of whom are dead.

#### Mount Pleasant Church.

Mount Pleasant, a former church of Missionary Baptist denomination, was situated near the center of section eleven, District No. 1. The church was organized about 1844. Some of the charter members were Harvey Crist and wife, Geo. Crist and wife, Jackson Duckworth, Nancy and Sarah Duckworth and Geo. Biggs and wife. The only charter member living is Mrs. Sarah Duckworth Biggs who at present lives near Pierson Station, Illinois.

Some early additions to the church were Samuel Stout, John Pierson, Henry Pierson, James Stout, David Sills, Elizabeth Sills, Addison Marymee, Peter Buskirk and wife, Wm. Asa Mahan and wife, Abner Crist and wife, Asa Branson and wife, Nancy Liston, Eunice Pierson, James Curry and wife, A. Curry, Martha A. Curry Biggs, Martha Crist, Louis Marymee and wife, Geo. T. Duckworth, John Duckworth and wife, William Sills and wife, Preston Sills and wife, Sarah Crist, James McCammon and wife, Samuel Sills and wife, Sarah McCammon, Josephine McCammon, Charlotte Marymee, Mary Sills, Elizabeth Marymee, Thos Stark and wife, William H. Asbury, Alex Shephard and Jerry Strahley.

Some of the early ministers were Samuel Sparks, Daniel Starks, Wm. Stancel, William Eldridge, Abraham Starks and Geo. Crist. Others were Thomas Cuppy, Geo. Marlow, James Turner, James William Stark, Samuel Siavens and James Barr.

This church belonged to the Curry's Prairie Association and was active and in good condition until 1880. At this time occurred the death of Geo. C. Biggs, one of the foremost members of the church. A number of other members had moved away and gone into other denominations and the church attendance fell away until services were discontinued. In 1882 the Association sent Rev. Allen and Isaac McGrew to meet with the members and make arrangements to continue services but they





did not succeed and soon the church was disbanded. The building was sold to Chas. Stewart who moved it to Vigo county and built a house of it. It may be of interest to those who used to attend this church to know that the seats used at this church were first taken to old Hymera Baptist church and then to the Coalmont Baptist church and are now being used at that place.

#### Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

The Mt. Pleasant Cemetery was formerly a part of Elijah Pierson's farm in the southwest section of No. 1. This land was given by him as a location for a cemetery and a church. The earliest grave now remembered was that of Ellen Buckellew, in 1850. The names of the people buried here are:

William Criss, Samuel Simons, Philip Fritz, Burley E. Tilley, Marie Tilley, David Clark and two children, Henry Dalton, Barnette Clark, John Mahan, Peter Burk, Martha Tilley, two Ward children, Elizabeth Griffith and two children, Byron Mahan, Katherine Hatz, Nancy Sills, William Sills, John Mattox, Mary Mattox, Mary Kitchell, Emery Albrooke, Everett Kitchell, Herbert Mahan, Wm. Lenard and one child, Samuel Freeze, Elizabeth Sills, Solomon Day and wife, Eliza Sabin, Malinda Crist, Louis Mattox and wife, Mary Miller, Albert Fritz, Abigail McHaffy, Vora Stevens, Lola Stevens, Simpson Starke, Ellen Ford, John Ford, Sarah Ford, Sarah Buckellew, Mary Pierson, Nancy Branson, Asa Branson, Charles Mahan, Elizabeth Bogard, Susan Sills, Mary Sills, Daniel Sills, David Sills, Louisa Cochran, Anna Cochran, Charles Cochran, Wallace Cochran, William H. H. Cochran, Wickliffe Cochran, John Billings, Matilda Day, Charles Watts Ora Griffith, Marion Mackaye, Mary Starke, James Starke, P. Y. Buskirk and three children, two daughters of A. J. Watts, Martha E. Crist, W. P. Akers, Dr. J. Tichnor, Dorotheulia Starke, Dr. O. P. Starke, Harvey Jones, Caroline Holbert, Eugene Kitchell, Jennie Kitchell, J. E. Kitchell, Francis Ingram.

The names of the soldiers buried here are given below:

Philip Fritz, Burley E. Tilley, James Clark, William Sills, John Mattox, Simpson Starke, William Buckellew, Charles Cochran, John Billings, Harvey Jones.

Some of the oldest residents of the district are Mrs. James Biggs, Mrs. James M. Boston, Mrs. Jesse Boston and Mrs. Henry Pierson. Their biographies together with their husbands', are given below.

#### Mr. and Mrs. James W. Biggs.

James W. Biggs, the only son of George C. and Nancy A. Biggs, was born near Centerville in Vigo county, July 2, 1840. Mr. Biggs's father entered the land upon which they lived, having obtained a land warrant from the government. The Patent Office at that time was located at Vincennes and since there were no railroads, he made the trip on horseback. On this land he constructed a hewed log house of which a part is still standing. A year later the family moved to District No. 1.

James Biggs was married Dec. 24, 1862, to Martha A. Curry, daughter of J. P. and Margaret A. Curry. She was born Sept. 8, 1839 in District No. 2, Jackson township. They began their married life in a very simple and modest way, with very little household goods. Their first dining table was a walnut chest which had once belonged to Mr. Biggs's great-  
aunt.

They lived for a few months just north of Mr. Biggs's father's farm but later moved to his farm where they lived until Feb. 19, 1913, when they moved to Lewis where Mr. Biggs died Feb. 23, 1914.

There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Biggs six children of whom three are still living. At present Mrs. Biggs is making her home with her two daughters in Jasonville.

#### Mr. and Mrs. James M. Boston.

James M. Boston, son of Jesse Boston and Mary Boston, was born Sept. 17, 1848, in Spencer county, Kentucky. He later came to Indiana where he grew to manhood. He attended school at old Mt. Pleasant



School House. At the age of eighteen he was married to Burnette Foreman. She was born Nov. 4, 1850 in Bullet county, Kentucky. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Foreman and second daughter of eleven children. At the age of six she came to Indiana and, until her marriage, lived on a farm one and one half miles east of Lewis.

Mr. Boston received from his father one hundred and sixty acres of land southeast of Lewis and it was here that they went to house-keeping. There were born to them twelve children, who are all living. They are Tessa, Charles, Lizzie, Hattie, Jim, John, Ben, Noel, Gladys, Raymond, Jesse and Hester. Mr. Boston died Sept. 16, 1902.

#### Mr. and Mrs. Jesse M. Boston

Jesse M. Boston was born in 1817 in Worcester county, Maryland, on the Pokonoke river. At six years of age he went with his father to Spencer county, Kentucky, where he grew to manhood. In 1842 he was married to M. J. Stout. Eight years later Mr. and Mrs. Boston moved to Sullivan county, Indiana. There were born to them two sons, John and James. At one time Mr. Boston owned four hundred acres of land which he divided between his two sons. His wife died in 1862. He lived with his sons until 1878 when he was married to Margaret (McGill) Woodrow, who was the widow of Joseph Woodrow. Mr. Boston died in 1899. Mrs. Boston lived with her brother John McGill and her sister, Mary McGill until their death. She now lives in Lewis.

#### Henry T. Pierson.

Henry T. Pierson was born Dec. 8, 1825, on a farm near Lewis, Indiana. When he was twenty-one years old there was a call for volunteers for the war with Mexico, and he enlisted in Company H of the Fourth Regiment of Indiana Volunteers, under Captain Cochran, who

carried a silver medal that was presented to him by the governor of Pennsylvania for bravery in the battle of Lake Erie under Commodore Perry. Mr. Pierson was in the regiment commanded by Col. Willis A. Gorman and took part in the battle of Amentę. He was honorably discharged from the service in the latter part of June, 1848 at Madison, Indiana. He then returned to his home in Jackson township and engaged in the peaceful pursuits of a farmer until the outbreak of the Civil War when he again responded to the call of his country and enlisted in Company H of the Eighty-fifth Regiment of Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which was led by Captain, afterwards Major William T. Crawford of Sullivan. He went with his regiment in the army of the Tennessee and was in the battle of Dallas, Lookout Mountain, Resaca, and Thompson's Station, the last of which was the bloodiest battle in which Mr. Pierson ever participated. The rebel forces outnumbered the Union forces ten to one; the fight lasted four hours, when the Union soldiers were overcome and taken prisoners and placed in Libby prison. The rebel loss in this battle was fourteen hundred and there were eleven hundred Union soldiers taken prisoners. Mr. Pierson being one of this number. He was shot in the head by a minie ball during this battle.

He was married three times, his last wife, who survived him, being Sarah Emeline Bastain, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett Bastain. She was born March 23, 1850, ten miles northeast of Bloomington, in Monroe county, Indiana. In 1891 she was married to H. T. Pierson. Mr. and Mrs. Pierson lived on the Pierson farm until 1907 when they moved to Lewis, Indiana, in District No. 1. It was here that Mr. Pierson died in October, 1913. Mrs. Pierson still lives in Lewis.



# Chapter 3. District No. 2.

Clara Allen 49.20	Arthur Allen 21	Robert Gramm 89.58	C. Richey 94.90
			H. Shumaner 92.55
			Mary Scott 84.67
40	40	Teaove Brunker 41.79	Geo Brunner 41.79
J.W. Halberstadt 40	A.E. + N. Curry 50		Anna + Steve Brown 67.09
			Nancy Curry 41.74
F. Baldrige	F. Everly 39.40	Alva Marts. Mag School House	David Mohr 25
			D. Stark 39.20
			E. Prather
			J.C. Brown 78.38
			Gus Burton 40
J.W. Brown 114		Roy Hogget 18.74	John Sills 22
		J.C. Brown 11.50	J.W. Biggs 99
			Nancy Biggs 11
	M. Strawn 54	Geo. Grillon 80	Ellen Wambaugh 40
	Sugar Grove		John Wambaugh 80
			Wint Cummins 50
Wm Brown 90	T.D. Strawn 61.97		Kenneth Self 100
			J.W. Halberstadt 100
B. Meno 2	Franka Orille Mahan 71.12		J.D. Strawn 4
Ernest Brown 40	J.E. Denton 92.50		Tom Plew 60
			J. M. Hamilton 20

District No. 2 is composed of land that is rather broken, with the exception of the northeastern part which was formerly part of a prairie and is level. The people of this district are engaged principally in farming.

The district is thought to have been settled about 1835. Some of the old settlers were James Brown, William Brown, Brookford Washington, Mr. Baker, Chesley Crist, Lyman Boone, Dave Bledsoe, John Coplan, Benjamin B. Mahan and Charles Mahan.

The first school house in this district was situated on the farm now owned by T. D. Strawn, and at that time owned by George Crist, who was instrumental in getting the first

school building erected. The man of the district cleared the ground and built the rude log house. The logs were not hewed as they were in later times, but were merely notched at the ends. The floor was not difficult to make, for it was nothing more than earth made level and smooth. There were no blackboards and the seats were puncheon with no backs. The fire was built in the middle of the room. The chimney was placed upon two logs which were fastened in each side of the room, high enough to allow the children to walk beneath them. The boys had to cut wood for fuel. On one occasion when four of the larger boys were out cutting a tree for fuel they felled it in front of a hole



in the side of a hill. Immediately after the tree had fallen a large bear came plunging through the trees. One of the boys had a pistol in his pocket which he tried to use. When the bear came close he fired, in its face and fled with the other boys to the school house, fearing his aim had not been true. That night they found the bear's dead body near the hole.

There were no windows in this first school house but on the south side two logs had been left out in the building of the house and over this opening was placed greased paper. Enough light came through the paper to enable the pupils to see to study their spelling lessons. The branch of the C. T. H. & S. E. railroad now runs near the spot where this building stood. There was and is yet a spring near the place which furnished the school with drinking water. The first teacher who taught here was Mr. Baker, from New York. Besides teaching school Mr. Baker made felt hats. Some of the first students were John Brown, James Brown and a Mr. Briley.

The second school house was built on what is now Mrs. Ellen Wambaugh's farm. It was built very much like the first except it had a floor in it. The first teacher in this school house was Mr. Garven. He lived at that time where Gus Burton now lives. He later founded at Terre Haute what is now Brown's Business College. Some of the pupils who attended school here at this time were the Stocks, Bakers, Crists and Mahans. At these earlier schools the teachers were often locked out by the pupils until they promised to treat. This, however, was taken in good spirits by both the teacher and the students. Some other teachers who taught in this building were Clint Sills, Clabron Wood, and Miss Mahan. Miss Mahan was the first woman to teach in this idistrict. Mr. Kenneth Self taught the last term that was ever taught in this building. It was during his term that he hired Mr. Samuel Flowers to make the first blackboard that was ever used in this

school. It was made of poplar and was well soaked with oil and then painted. It could scarcely be marked upon but it was thought very good at that time. On Monday after Mr. Self had closed his term of school on Friday, the building burned. This was in 1870.

The third school house was built just a little north of where Mr. Ben Mahan's house now stands. It was built by subscription and the teacher was paid in the same way. It was only used two terms and the teacher of both terms was Dr. L. K. Stock.

The fourth school house was a frame building, erected in 1872, while Mr. James Plew was trustee. This building stood where the present school house now stands. In this year the first library books were bought, which consisted of two volumes of Civil War History. These books contained a record of all the Civil War soldiers from this state. This building contained a black board which extended the whole north end of the building. A little later, when Squire Wallace was trustee, two unabridged dictionaries were placed in the library. These books cost fifteen dollars each. Mr. Self was the first teacher in this building. Following him was Mr. Samuel Hamill, who afterwards became a famous lawyer and only a few years ago defended John R. Walsh in his trial. Later there came George Dutton, Jabes Asbury, Sylvester Baldrige, Thomas Scott, Thomas Strawn, Flora Brown and Clabe Boston.

In 1900 the present brick building was erected. The history of the school from that time is so well known that it need not be recorded here.

In 1883, District No. 2 secured a post office. It was located in the store managed by Mr. Alexander Buchanan, who was also postmaster. There was no special mail carrier but any one who had occasion to be in Farnersburg would bring back the mail and leave it at the store. Later Mr. Self became postmaster and the post office was moved to his





home. His sons carried the mail to and from Farmersburg twice each week. They took care of the mail until the Rural Free Delivery was established, and received for their work sixty-eight dollars a year.

Some of the men from this district who enlisted for service in the Civil War were Chesley Crist, John R. Mahan, John E. Smith, Jackson Criss, John Nelson and William Nelson. These are all dead. Those yet living are Curtis Stewart, Chester Stewart, William J. Smith, John Baldrige and Monroe Canan.

In 1892 Mr. William Mahan owned and operated the first grist mill that was ever in the district. It was run by steam power. In 1854 Mr. Mahan's father owned and operated the first brick kiln, which supplied the neighborhood trade only. Brick was also made the following year, 1855, by Mr. Chesley Crist.

It is thought that the first frame house of the district was James Brown's, built in 1855. The house is still standing but is no longer used as a dwelling. The second frame house was built by William Smith for his own use. This is still standing on Frank Mahan's farm.

This district has been rather famous for sugar camps. The first one operated on a large scale was owned by Billy Brown. The work at that time was done with rude implements. There was, however, a large comfortable boiling shed. In this shed was a tank made from a very large beech tree. It held about twenty-five barrels of sap. The camp contained about three hundred trees from which they secured sap. The rude troughs in which they collected the sugar water were made from the trees of the forest. They had to have over three hundred of them, so it took considerable time to make them. These troughs did not hold a great deal, so when the sap was running well the men had to haul all night. They hauled the sap to the camp in barrels on a sled drawn by oxen. The sugar made here brought about fifteen cents a pound.

One night some boys were out coon hunting and stopped at Mr.

Brown's camp. He was just "stirring off a batch" and the boys decided they would wait until it became cool and help Mr. Brown dispose of some of the sugar. When it was cooled a little and in the form of taffy, Mr. Brown rolled some of it into a ball and threw it to the dog. He grabbed it and commenced to chew it but his teeth stuck fast. He stood there looking stupefied for a few seconds and then started for home. The "hunt" was over for that night so they stayed and "got even" with Mr. Brown by eating all the sugar they could.

At a later period there were other sugar camps in this district, owned by Jimmie Brown, Thomas Strawn, and Mr. Baldrige.

#### Sugar Grove Church.

The Sugar Grove Presbyterian Church was organized in 1887. The church house was built soon after. The charter members were Jess Burton, Nancy Brown, Kate Brown, Ann Brown, Nancy Curry, Mrs. Mary Baldrige and W. S. Baldrige. Some later additions to the church were James Brown, Pearl Brown, Flora Brown, Lizzie Burton, John Halberstadt, Linnie Halberstadt, Calvin Brown, Nancy Brown and Mrs. Margaret Boston. The first preacher at this church was Rev. John Fox. Some who came later were the Rev. Bates, Engler, Taylor, Condiff, Parrott and Griffin. The auxiliary organizations of the church are the Sunday school, which is as old as the church; the Christian Endeavor, organized in 1906; and the Ladies Aid Society, organized in 1914. The building was remodeled in 1910.

#### Sugar Grove Cemetery.

Sugar Grove Cemetery is much older than the church, the first grave, that of a Cuppy, having been made in 1851. Some of the people buried here are Zibah Foot, M. D., 1907. Esther Sills Phipps, 1912. Mary McGill, 1907. Achsah Self, 1900. Rosena Wambaugh, 1896. E. D. Wambaugh, 1896. Charlotte Berlien, 1905. Ida May Halberstadt, 1898. Cecil Halberstadt, 1901. Sarah Montgomery Wood, 1892. William



McClary, 1841, Abner Crist, 1894, Mary R. Brown, 1889, James S. Brown, 1887, Samuel Brown, 1859, Nancy Brown, 1852, William H. Brown, 1871, Nancy A. Brown, 1880, Eunice Brown, 1896, Herman Brown 1913, Catherine Shoemaker, 1911, Harrison Shoemaker, 1904, Effie Shoemaker, 1888, Hazel Burton, 1892, John K. Brown, 1895, Susan Mahan, 1890, Margaret E. Brown, 1873, Ona Mahan, 1895, Nora Mahan, 1893, Charles W. Mahan, 1896, Orlando Mahan, 1884, Charles Miller, 1905, Jacob Cuppy, 1876, James Russell Brunker, 1913, and Sarah Cuppy, 1914.

Some of the oldest residents of the district are Mr. Kenneth Self, Mrs. John Wood, Mrs. William Scott, Mr. and Mrs. William Mahan, whose biographies appear below:

#### Kenneth Self.

Mr. Kenneth Self was born in Montgomery county, Kentucky, Dec. 21, 1823. His father was Presley Self who was born in Culpepper county, Virginia, in 1787, and was buried at Greensburg, Indiana, in 1864. His mother was Helen Wilson Self, who was also born in Virginia in 1787. Mr. Self is the youngest of six children and the only one living. Mr. Self received most of his education in the old fashioned subscription schools but he attended an academy for a short time. When he was seventeen years old he taught school for fifteen months, after which he attended college at what is now the State University. He then resumed his teaching and followed that profession until 1850. On July 19, 1850, he was married to Achsah Wood, who was born in 1825, in Mason county, Kentucky. Previous to 1863 Mr. Self lived in Decatur county, but during that year he moved to Coles county, Illinois, where he continued teaching and farming until 1869, when he came to Jackson township, where he now resides. When he first settled in Sullivan county, he purchased eighty acres of land and added to it until he had a well improved farm of one hundred acres but later he sold forty acres of it to his son.

There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Self eight children, all of whom are living except one child that died at the age of eight months. They are Samuel, Mrs. C. G. Stock, Mrs. S. B. Brown, Morton, Lincoln, Claborn, and William. Mr. Self is a member of the Presbyterian church. He is one of the oldest men in the township and a great friend of "Uncle Jim" McCammon.

#### Mr. and Mrs. John Wood.

John Oliver Wood, son of Noah and Comfort Wood, was born May 24, 1835, in Decatur county, Indiana. He moved to Illinois in 1853. From there he moved to Jackson township, Sullivan county, Indiana. He was a merchant while in Illinois, but after returning to Indiana he became a farmer. He was married to Sarah A. Montgomery, Dec. 11, 1855. There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wood seven children, three of whom died in infancy. The others are Achsah Jane, William, Ida, and Linnie. Mr. Wood died Jan. 9, 1892. Mrs. Wood is now seventy-nine years old but still in good health.

*Corrected by  
R. C. Hallenbeck  
Gambro*

#### Mr. and Mrs. William Scott.

William Liston Scott, son of Levi and Mahala Liston Scott, was born in Monroe county, Indiana, Dec. 5, 1834. When a child he moved with his parents to Vigo county. He attended school at what was known as the Scott school house in Linton township, Vigo county. On Oct. 25, he was married to Rebecca Thompson. She was born in Fairbanks township, Sullivan county, April 30, 1843, the youngest of a family of eight children. A few years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Scott moved to Nemaha county, Kas., lived there for about five years and then returned to Indiana. To Mr. and Mrs. Scott were born seven children. Thompson, Mary, Mrs. Izzie Barnes, Levi, deceased, John, Oscar, and Henry. Mr. Scott died Sept. 6, 1906, and was buried in Friendship cemetery, of which church he was a member. Mrs. Scott is still living with her daughter Mary, on her farm in district No. 2.







ravine. He hauled the coke to Terre Haute and received for it about forty cents a ton. Some other settlers who came later were Justice Heck, Calhoun Ridgeway, Samuel Brown and Mr. Johns. The land in this district was once rich but is now rather worn. The principal industry of this district is farming, although from 1902 to 1909 it was mining. The mines are all closed at present. The farmers are looking more and more to the scientific side of farming and are getting results. There are two hundred people in the district and some forty families. Mr. Dills has the largest, numbering an even dozen.

The first school of this district was held in an old log school house about forty rods east of the Nye's Chapel church. It still stands today in the form of an old barn. Some of the teachers who taught here were Mr. Johns in 1862, Mr. Bill Denny, Mr. Ed. Ford, Dr. Baldridge and Mr. Self. This school was known by the name of California. In 1880 a new school house was built where the present house now stands. Mr. Ed. Ford was the first teacher. Some of the other teachers here were Sally Canan, Miss M. Barnes, Dr. J. H. Bennett and Tom Kennel. The present school house was built in 1905.

#### The Rood Mine.

In 1903 Mr. G. L. Rood bought eighty-five acres of land of Mr. Al Forbus and sunk the Rood Mine. It is one-quarter of a mile northwest of No. 3 school house. It was the most prosperous mine of the three mines of the district but having no solid bottom, it was very hard to hold the roof, therefore there was great danger of its caving in. Four men met death as a result of this bad bottom. They were Mr. George Hayworth, Mr. George Hardy, Mr. Frank Grover and Mr. Frank Deane. The output of the mine was from seven to eight hundred tons per day. There was one hundred acres of coal mined from this mine. There was at one time one hundred and twenty-five men employed here. The work was machine and pick work.

There were about twenty-five mules used here for pulling cars. Mr. G. L. Rood built the little town known as the Rood Blocks, consisting of twenty houses. In 1907 Mr. Rood sold the mine to a company from Chicago. These people operated the mine until 1911 when they failed. The men employed struck and had to sue for their wages. Part of these men were never paid. The mine then went into the hands of a receiver and was bought by Mr. J. R. Sharp and Mr. Manden Drake of Farmersburg. At the present time the property is in bad condition and part of it has been hauled away. Mr. D. Kemp of Lewis bought the old mule barn and moved it over near Lewis. Mr. Charles Sharp bought the old blacksmith shop and now has a modern barn made of it. The rest of the mine lies in ruin.

#### Superior Mine.

In 1903 the Brittle Creek Coal Company sank the Superior Mine. It was later called the Shirkey mine in honor of the Superintendent. It is one and three-quarter miles east of Farmersburg. It is of the same character as the Rood Mine. The company owned five hundred acres of coal and ten acres of surface. It had an average output of five hundred tons per day. There were eighty acres worked out when the mine was closed. There were one hundred men and twenty mules employed there. On the last day of work a Mr. Henman was killed. In 1907 this mine passed into the hands of the Dering Coal Company. This company immediately shut the mine down and set a watch over it and everything is as it was left the day it shut down in 1907. This is a good indication that the company will develop this coal field in the future.

#### Cummins Mine.

Mr. D. M. Cummins of Chicago, purchased of David Sharp, Sr., twenty acres of surface land located in Jackson Township, District No. 3, three and three-quarters miles west of Lewis on the Sullivan and Vigo County Road. At the same time he purchased seventy-three acres in





Vigo County. In 1902 he sunk a mine on the twenty acres, which was later known as the Cummins Mine. It was a slope mine and was run by steam power. The old boilers and parts of the old engines are still to be seen on the spot, half eaten with rust. This mine in its prime produced on the average from five to six hundred tons of coal per day, and gave employment to one hundred and thirty men. Mr. Cummins at one time owned two hundred acres of No. 7 coal. For the benefit of some of the miners he built a number of houses just across the line in Vigo County. There was also a small store at this cross-road village. The mining here was done by pick and shovel. At times there were as many as twenty mules used here to pull the coal to the main hoisting track. Mr. Cummins sold this mine to the Lyons Coal Company who operated it for a while and then sold it to the Monon Coal Company who shut it down in 1909. They own it at the present time.

#### Nye's Chapel.

The United Brethren Church known as Nye's Chapel was organized in 1864. The charter members were Mr. and Mrs. Ben Bridwell, Mr. and Mrs. John Heck, Mr. and Mrs. William Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Sanford Bridwell, Mr. and Mrs. John Carpenter, Mr. and Mrs. John Sills, Miss Lusetie Carpenter, Mr. and Mrs. Sim Carpenter, Mary Richardson, Sallie Carpenter, Harry Bridwell, Jane Cummins and Mr. and Mrs. George Barcus. The first building was made of logs and stood just east of the present building. The old log building was dedicated by the Rev. A. J. Neugent, the first minister.

Some later additions to the church are Mr. and Mrs. James Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. James Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Andy Richardson, George Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Dean Cummins, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Albert Cramer, Mr. and Mrs. Ephriam Williams, Mike Everly, Mr. and Mrs. Tune Everly, Mr. and Mrs. Chancey Romine, Clara Bennett, Albert Forbes,

Scott Engle, Sarah Curry, Theresa Wood, Mrs. Joseph Halberstadt, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Doty and Martin All.

Some of the preachers who have preached here are Rev. Louis Josephin, Rev. Collins, Rev. Hearse, Rev. Cardwell, Rev. Easton, Rev. Shideler, Rev. Muncie, Rev. Markley, Rev. Fink, Rev. Buzzard, Rev. Harbert, Rev. Coffman, Rev. Miller, Rev. Thomas Walters, Rev. Ellist, Rev. Brandenburg, Rev. Schoonover and Rev. Forwood.

In 1890 a new frame building was built which stands today. It was dedicated by Bishop Castle. The auxiliary associations of the church are the Sunday School, the Christian Endeavor and Ladies Aid Society.

#### The Cemetery.

The cemetery here is not very old for the first grave was made in 1894. The ground for the cemetery was given by Mr. Ben Bridwell. The first grave was that of Lucy Bridwell. Others who are buried here are:

Nancy Halberstadt  
 Geneva Risinger  
 Elizabeth Everly  
 Thomas Beasley  
 Theodore Halberstadt  
 Herman Branson  
 Lottie Everly  
 Raymond Bridwell  
 Leo Romine  
 Martha Denton  
 Ruth Miller  
 Martha Bennett  
 John T. Halberstadt  
 Elizabeth Daugherty  
 Mary Flowers  
 Martha Allen  
 Dora Morris  
 J. E. Johnson  
 Infant daughter of Frank Lowe  
 Sarepta Cummins  
 A. J. Richardson  
 Samuel Romine  
 William K. Pierce  
 Virginia Grader  
 J. G. Pierce  
 Lizzie M. Pierce  
 John Williams  
 Ben Bridwell  
 Eliza Easter



Arthur Barnhart  
 Harrison Barnhart  
 Isaiah Hoggatt  
 Roy Joselin  
 Beulah Peterson  
 Edwin Beskeen  
 George Halberstadt  
 Mary Halberstadt  
 James Shaw  
 Eliza Shaw  
 Tom Barcus  
 Amanda Barcus  
 Lora Cummins  
 Robert Daugherty  
 Ed Berlien  
 Joe Berlien  
 Lucinda Everly  
 James Swift  
 Martha Harding  
 Mary Harding  
 Sarah Swift  
 Namie Swift  
 Mary B. Swift  
 James P. Hagerman  
 Bill Ammerman  
 Ivy Ammerman  
 Anna Peterson  
 Betty L. Halberstadt  
 The soldiers buried here are:  
 John Pierce  
 Jehu Johnson  
 Andy Richardson  
 Joe Berlien  
 Samuel Romine  
 Tom Halberstadt  
 George Halberstadt  
 Tine Halberstadt  
 Dora Halberstadt

The following are biographies of some of the oldest residents of the district:

**Mr. and Mrs. Cramer.**

Mr. Albert Cramer was born in Germany in 1835. He went to common schools in Germany and at the age of twenty-three enlisted in the army and served three years and six months, for it was required that all able bodied men should serve in the army. Mr. Cramer was a farmer when living in Germany. He accompanied his father to America in 1868. They came to Jasper County, Indiana, and lived there for a number of years. He then moved to Sullivan County and later to Illinois, where he farmed for a number of years. He then moved to Jackson Township. He was married in

1887 to Mary Grobs. She died the same year. He next married Miss Angeline Carpenter in 1888. She was born in Jackson Township in 1850. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sim Carpenter. She went to school at the old log school building just east of the Nye's Chapel Church.

**Mrs. Lusetta Baskeen.**

Mrs. Lusetta Carpenter was born in Owen county in 1845. She is the youngest of a family of twelve children. All are dead but herself and two others. She came to Jackson Township in 1849. She was married in 1865 to Edward Baskeen, who was born in England. There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Baskeen eight children of whom only two are now living.—Mrs. James Fox of Jackson Township, and Mrs. Samuel Woods of Terre Haute. Mrs. Baskeen is now living with Rufus McCloney near No. 3 School House.

**Mr. and Mrs. David Sharp.**

David Sharp was born in Cumberland, England, in 1831. He came to America in 1850 and lived at Evansville, Indiana, for a number of years. In 1858 he moved to Farmersburg, Indiana. He leased a coal mine and operated it until after the war. He moved to Jackson Township in 1864, where he died in 1905. In 1856 he was married to Mary Stuart, who was born in Scotland in 1841. She came to America when she was sixteen years old. There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Sharp eight children of whom six are now living. They are David, Ralph, George, Robert, Mrs. Mary Huntwork and Charles. Mrs. Sharp is now living with her son Charles.

**John Heck.**

Mr. John Heck was born in Franklin County, Indiana, Oct. 15, 1839. He came to Jackson Township, District No. 3, in 1850. He settled and purchased land south of No. 3 School House. He was married in 1862. His wife was born in Greene County, Ohio, in 1839, and came to Jackson Township in 1856. There were two children in this family.—George D. Heck and Sallie A. Heck. Mr. and Mrs. Heck now live south of No. 3 School House.



Orr O'Keefe 12 21 Sarah A. Phillips		Samuel Morris 30 19	Wm A Shaw 10	JT Halberstadt 20	WW Barcus 100			C E Denton 78 50
Rebecca White Wm Johnson 58 19		Geo M Halberstadt 100		J Halberstadt 19 50	Dudley Shaw 20 50		Ed Halbert 16	
4 50	8	ET Halberstadt 40		A P Asbury 140		John A Curry 18		
Chas Scott 39 50	John Brewer 80	D H Halberstadt 40		John Halberstadt 26		Wm E Stark 5 4	Pullen 16	
		Hannah Barnhart 40	ET Halberstadt 24	William Stark 27	Mary Dickson 10		Clarence Morris 18	
		9	District No 4		S Halberstadt 5		Eliza Halberstadt 20	
John Richardson 76 39		CR Rime 10	Hannah Barnhart 11 67	Frank Wheat 7	Joed H	James Rankin 10	Calvin Ridgeway 40	John Ida 99 Hood Dorothy Geo Peterson 24
HS Wallace 37 39	Margaret West 37 39	John Giles 40	Samantha Halberstadt 40		T Cummins 20	Henry Ring 80		TC Williams 80
EP Wallace 40		Kate Wallace 47 50	WH Hopt 32 50	John Giles 40	N J Swift 20 40	Joe Harding 40	Charles Williams 40	Geo Peterson 20
40	40	HS Wallace 40	John A Harding 40	Verna Cummins 38 40	DL Baldrige 40		WD Hood 20	Missa Wardell 40

District No. 4 is in the northwest part of the township and taken as a whole, is very fertile and well adapted to agriculture. In the south and southeastern parts it is rough and broken but the rest of the land of the district is level. Farming is the principal industry of the district, although there is some stock raising on a small scale.

The land in this district was entered about 1830. Some of the first settlers were Thomas Manwarring, Jerry Barcus, Abraham Plew, Harrison Halberstadt, Benjamin Barcus, Washington Ridgeway, S. B. Wardell and Henry Wallace. In 1846 Thomas Manwarring purchased from the government seven hundred and fifty acres of land lying around the

school house in District No. 4. There were two hundred acres lying south of the building, and the rest on the north, east and west sides. The heirs to this land were Swifts, Halberstadts and Dotys. All of A. P. Asbury's land was at one time owned by Thomas Manwarring. The land now owned by W. W. Barcus was also owned by the same man and later purchased from him by Mr. Barcus's father, Thomas Barcus. About 1846 J. Ridgeway entered a large tract of land of which a part is now owned by Henry Ring.

Just after the district was settled, a log school house was built by the settlers. It was situated about a half mile west of the present brick building. It was a subscription



school and provided for by the settlers who built it. One of the first teachers was Washington Ridgeway. The second school house was a frame building and was erected while James Plew, the son of Abraham Plew, who entered land here in 1830, was trustee of Jackson Township. The school house was then known as the Ridgeway School House. S. B. Wardell, a local preacher of the M. E. Church, was also one of the early teachers. Some who came later were Jabes Asbury, Jennie Manwarring, Mandy Hinkle Manwarring, Cora Wardell, Rebecca Batey, Adam Snider, Rev. John Furry and Madge Patton Stevens.

Some of the oldest residents of the district are Mrs. Sarah Jane Asbury, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Asbury and Mrs. Eliza Halberstadt, whose biographies are given below:

#### Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Asbury.

A. P. Asbury, son of Rev. George W. Asbury and Sarah Jane Hughbanks Asbury, was born Dec. 1, 1846, in a log cabin south of Hymera, not far from where Jackson Hill is now. On March 1, 1864, at the age of seventeen, Mr. Asbury enlisted for service in Company H of the Eighty-fifth Regiment of Indiana Volunteer Infantry and served until the close of the war. He later attended Ascension Seminary at Farmersburg. On March 18, 1869, he was married to Almira Beecher, daughter of George and Keziah Beecher who originally came from Columbus, Ohio, and settled in Vigo County, where Mrs. Asbury was born March 1, 1849. She attended school in Vigo County and at the Ascension Seminary at Farmersburg. Later she taught school at Rosedale and Lewis. There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Asbury ten children, all of whom are living, except the youngest son. They are Mrs. Ida Ford, Mrs. Maud Cummins, Mrs. Eva Gritton, Fred Asbury, Mrs. Bertha

Thralls, Mrs. Mary J. Bronson, Arthur, Emery, Lester and Raymond. In 1879 Mr. Asbury was licensed to preach in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a member of the G. A. R. and was elected Department Commander of this state in 1910. (Since the writing of this biography Mr. and Mrs. Asbury have moved to Farmersburg).

#### Sarah J. Asbury.

Sarah Jane Asbury, wife of the late Rev. George W. Asbury, is at present living with her son, A. P. Asbury. She was born in Fleming County, Kentucky, March 14, 1826. She is the daughter of William Hughbanks, who came to Jackson Township in 1835, and settled on the farm now owned by Albert Zink. She was married in 1841, at the age of fifteen, to George W. Asbury, son of Landman Asbury. His mother died of cholera while they were living in Fleming County, Kentucky. His father was a soldier in the war of 1812. Rev. and Mrs. Asbury went to housekeeping on the farm now known as the Keen Farm, east of Hymera. They have lived in Jackson Township all their married life, except fourteen years during which time Rev. Asbury was a traveling minister in the M. E. Church. There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Asbury five children.—E. K. Asbury of Farmersburg, A. P. Asbury, Mrs. R. M. King of Terre Haute, J. T. and J. A. Asbury, both of Pasadena, California.

#### Eliza J. Halberstadt.

Eliza J. Cummins Halberstadt was born in Jackson Township June 2, 1847. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Cummins, who were residents of Curry Township near the Jackson Township line. She was married Dec. 16, 1869 to E. T. Halberstadt. She has lived in Jackson Township all her life. She is the mother of one son, Joseph Halberstadt, with whom she now lives.









nor church services have been held here since that time. These Sunday School classes, for many years, and as early as 1885, held picnics in what was then known as Barnett's Grove, now owned by Mr. John Barnett.

This district has four and one-fourth miles of gravel and rock roads, part of which were built at three different times. The first part of these roads was built in 1895, and was graveled. This road ran one mile due north from No. 5 school house, and one mile south. The second road was built during the year 1905 and was covered with crushed rock. This road began at a point one-fourth mile west and one-fourth mile south of the school house, and ran due east to the district line. The last addition to these roads was built during the year 1913 and was also covered with rock. It started at a point one-fourth miles west from the school house and ran due west to the district line.

In the old days two deer licks are known to have existed in the district. The larger of the two was about half a mile south of Mr. Joe Barnett's home. This spring is still in existence. On the ground just above the spring stood a large sugar tree. Many wild animals are said to have been killed at this spring. The other spring is said to have been located next to the creek, just east of the residence of Mr. Noten Branson. This spring was not very large and was not the haunt of as many wild animals as was the other spring.

The first industrial establishment in this district was a saw-mill located on Busseron Creek, directly east of Mr. John Hood's farm. It was located here in 1855. It was owned by Mr. Joel Manwarring, and here he placed the first steam engine that was ever brought into Jackson township. Later, in 1867, Mr. Manwarring and Mr. William Harvey established a nursery on what is now known as the Chestnut Grove Dairy Farm, owned by Mr. J. E. Hopewell. The principal kinds of trees which he raised here for sale were pine,

cedar, cypress and almost all kinds of fruit trees. He sold a large amount of apple trees. Mr. Harvey quit the nursery about the year 1870. Three very distinct marks of this nursery can yet be seen today on that farm. There is a very large grove of chestnut trees, which bears a good quality of nuts annually. This grove is about two hundred yards north of Mr. Isaac Mahan's home. There are also long rows of large pine trees, and a hedge fence which almost entirely surrounds the north and west sides of the farm. This nursery was discontinued after the year 1885.

Mr. Frank Stock, who lived on the farm now owned by Mr. John Easter, was the principal shoemaker in this district for many years. Mr. Stock later moved to Lewis where he started a hardware and harness shop.

The first school house in this district was located about two hundred yards northwest of Isaac Mahan's present home. It was built of logs with a clap-board roof and had a large fireplace in one end of the room. This school house is known to have stood in this place about the year 1855 but it was later burned. The second school house was built in the center of the district in 1872, and was located where the present school building now stands. It was built by Benjamin Barcus and William Mahan, both pioneer residents of the district. This house was used not only for school purposes but also for church, Sunday school, court room, lodge meetings, elections, singing schools, and all public meetings in general. In 1893 it was sold to Mr. W. J. Lyons and made into a dwelling house, in which Edgar Lyons now lives. The teachers who taught in this building were Hannah Lovett, 1872; Anna Hinkle, 1873; Theodore Brewer, 1874; Jabes Asbury, 1875; Helen Flood, spring term. John Barnett, 1876; Clara Sills, spring term, Kenneth Self, 1877; Alice Gritton, 1878; W. S. Baldrige, 1879; and after this Mr. John Barnett taught here for about seven years. Those who came later were Mattie Scott, J. L. Scott,



Charles Barnett, Clabe Self and Rev. J. H. Furry, Roscoe McAnally, Gertrude Crist Cochran, Dr. Claude Asbury and Bert Beasley. The third school house built in this district is still standing and was made of brick and built in the year 1829 by John Barnett, contractor. The teachers who have taught here are too well known to record.

Some who graduated from this district were Robert Barnett, Jesse Scott and Mattie Scott, in 1883; Manville Lyons and Flora A. Lyons, in 1885; Edgar Lyons in 1890; Otis Hoggatt, Pearl Ford and Della Hoggatt, in 1893; Bert Hamilton and Luna Wolfe, in 1899; Cordelia Harvey in 1900; Lottie Railsback and Lottie Lyons, in 1901; Glenn Vanderpool, Leland Hamilton and Myrtle Barnett, in 1903; Lydia Vanderpool and James McCammon, in 1904; Nellie Barnett, Hazel Vanderpool and Hada Bennett, in 1905; Elizabeth Vanderpool, Lessa Railsback and Marie Barnett, in 1906; Connie Hamilton in 1907, and Frank Hood in 1908. Some of those who have graduated from the High School at Hymera from this district are: Nellie Barnett, in 1909; Marie Barnett, in 1911; Connie Hamilton, 1912; Raymond Barnett, Herbert Harvey and Judson Stark, 1913; and Mary Hamilton, 1914.

Mr. and Mrs. William Harvey.

Mr. William Harvey, son of Samuel and Louise Dunn Harvey, was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, Nov. 4, 1839, on Mill Creek, eight miles north of Cincinnati. He joined the Union Army in 1861, in Company B of the 37th Indiana Volunteers, from Brookville, Indiana. He was in the battles of Cumberland Gap, Stony River, Chickamauga, and was with Sherman on his march to the sea.

Mr. Harvey was united in marriage to Mollie Knotte in Brookville, Indiana, in 1865, and to this union were born two children, Ella and Edgar, both deceased. In 1870 Mrs. Harvey died. In 1872 Mr. Harvey married Elizabeth Matilda McCammon, and to this union were born seven children: Lou, wife of Mr.

Wes Barcus, a progressive farmer of this township; Minnie, deceased; Grace, deceased; Arthur, a miner of this district; Cordelia, wife of Mr. Frank Criss, a miner of Hymera; Mrs. Edith Husband of Terre Haute, and Herbert, who has been a student at Purdue University during the past year.

Mr. Harvey made his first visit to this township in 1865, when he saw an angry mob hang a murderer at Shelburn. In 1867 he moved his family here. In 1867 he entered into the nursery business with Joel Manwarring but quit this business in 1870. He has always been a farmer and is a very active G. A. R. worker in Sullivan County.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Mahan.

Isaac Mahan, a well known farmer of this district, was born in the house in which he now lives, on Nov. 2, 1842. He was the son of Thomas and Betty Mahan. "Uncle Ike," as we all know him, was the sixth of twelve children: William M., deceased; Margaret J., deceased; Rachel, deceased; John H., deceased; Sarah P., deceased; Isaac; Elizabeth A., deceased; George R., deceased; Samuel D., deceased; Ben S., of Hymera; Mariah L., now Mrs. Thomas Welch of Hymera.

Uncle Ike was united in marriage to Emily Dayhuff, who was born in Knox County, Ohio, Jan. 2, 1872, and this union has been blessed by the birth of two sons, Carl R. T. and Lloyd L. Carl was for several years a sawyer and thresher in this township and later a sawyer at Merrill, Mississippi, and in Louisiana for about ten years, and for the last four or five years has been manager of a cotton gin at Sulphur Springs, Texas. But owing to the bad cotton crop, he is now farming at that place. Lloyd served in the Spanish-American War with Col. Roosevelt's Rough Riders. He was in the famous charge up San Juan Hill and participated in the capture of Santiago.

Uncle Ike has always lived on the farm on which he was born, except from 1871 to 1875, when he lived on the farm now owned by Mr.



George Gritton. His home was the first frame house built in the district and in all probability was the first in Jackson Township. It was built about 1850. The plates of this house were whipsawed, the corner posts hewed, and the studding were probably sawed at the Manwarring mill. It was built by Walter Asbury and Uncle Ike's father, who were both carpenters and cabinet makers. Mr. Mahan owned a blacksmith shop for many years. It was located just across the road from Uncle Ike's home.

Uncle Ike told the writer that he once gathered about two hundred pounds of honey from one bee tree, but he claims not to be a hunter, saying that when his father's family wanted deer or bear meat, they always had "Uncle Jim" McCammon to kill it for them, as he was a great hunter and a very close neighbor, as they thought, in those days, because Mr. McCammon lived only about one and one-half miles from them.

Mr. Mahan was a cooper when young, but has been a farmer since then. He takes very much pride in his two large fish ponds, in which he has some fine fish.

#### James McCammon.

James McCammon was born in Daviess County, Indiana, on the east fork of White River, Feb. 9, 1821. When he was seven years old his parents moved to Jackson Township, Sullivan County, where he has since resided. He was the son of William McCammon and wife Patience, whose maiden name was Chestnut. He is the last of eight children; five girls. Polly, Betty, Rebecca, Sallie and Minerva; three boys, James, John and William.

When Mr. McCammon first came to this township there were very few people living here. Their nearest neighbor was one-half mile away and the next was one and one-half miles from them. When they raised a log cabin they went four miles in each direction in order to get enough help. The nearest doctor at that time was twenty miles away so that home-made remedies often had to

take the place of doctor prescriptions.

The woods at that time were full of wild animals. There were turkeys, deer, wolves and panthers, but bears were not so plentiful as at an earlier period. The deer would often come in great numbers to the "deer-licks" where salt could be obtained. Here the hunters would hide and shoot the deer as they approached.

Mr. McCammon was a great marksman and as the old pioneer in "Alice of Old Vincennes," if he could "get a bead on his left eye" he could bring down a deer at every shot. He has acquired through the years a reputation as a hunter that is quite equal to "Hawkeye" in the "Last of the Mohicans."

He tells an interesting story in regard to the killing of his first deer. His father had cut up and shocked a piece of new-ground corn. The wild turkeys had found it and had eaten the corn on the outside of each shock. A few nights before Thanksgiving there was a light fall of snow and the next morning the turkey tracks were thick every where. Mr. McCammon, then a small boy, taking his gun on his shoulder, told his mother that while she was getting breakfast he would go to the field and get a turkey for Thanksgiving. At the edge of the field he saw deer tracks, so he went after the deer. Soon he saw a deer's head projecting from a fallen tree. He fired and wounded the deer by hitting it in the breast. He then hesitated, remembering that his father had said a wounded deer was dangerous to encounter. Soon a neighbor boy came up and together they went for the deer which threw them back as fast as they approached, but finally they won the fight and had venison instead of turkey for Thanksgiving dinner.

One night the young folks of the neighborhood were having a party. The fun was at its height when they heard a terrible scream at the front door. Then all was quiet inside the house for some time. Every one was afraid to make a sound. Nothing more could be heard so after a





time they resumed their games but again came another awful scream. No one was brave enough to go outside that night so the whole crowd stayed over night. The next morning there were the tracks of the panther in the snow at the doorstep.

Mr. McCammon's father was a tanner by trade and while in Daviess County he tanned many deer hides that were brought to him by the slave holders of Kentucky who used them to make clothing for their slaves. When Mr. McCammon was quite small he was the proud possessor of a pair of hunting trousers which were made from the tanned hide of a panther which his father had killed.

One day while chasing a deer Mr. McCammon, knowing where the deer would likely cross the creek, hid himself in a thicket in order to be ready to shoot as he passed. While waiting he heard a noise above him and on looking up he saw a huge panther ready to spring upon him. He was successful in shooting the panther but in the mean time the deer had been frightened away.

Mr. McCammon bought from the government eighty acres of land at

one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. This is now the home of John Barnett. There were a great many sugar-trees then and from these they made their own sugar and also some to sell.

In 1843 Mr. McCammon was married to Eliza Cuppy, who was then eighteen years old. They went to housekeeping in a little log cabin with home-made furniture added piece by piece and made by Thomas Mahan, a brother-in-law. A walnut chest 20 in. by 20 in. by 40 in. served for a table and cupboard until these articles could be made. An old cupboard, a chest, one chair and a rolling pin are all that are left of their first housekeeping outfit. These articles have been in use seventy-two years.

Mr. and Mrs. McCammon were both members of the Mt. Pleasant Baptist church. They were the parents of eight children, Ella, Budd, Mary, Sara Frances, the twins Josephine and Jane, Hade and Della. Of these only three are living. They are Mrs. Mary Mahan, Mrs. Josephine Pullis and Hade McCammon. Mr. McCammon recently celebrated his ninety-fourth birthday and is at present the oldest resident in the township.



# Chapter 7. District No. 6.

Dan Blowing 20	Jacob Criss 15	A Criss	A L Hyatt 32 28	J P Pierson 40	Murray 10	G W Nelson 10	N Nelson 20	Carl N Rhamel 6 8 O W Rhamel 20	1333
Wm Mahan 40	Jacob Criss 20	Sarah Griffith 10	J C Criss 10	Sarah Haynes 7 1/2	40	Wm A Nelson 40	Arch Rhamel 20	Frank Rhamel 20	W A Asbury 40
Joseph Parr 1750	LL Mahan 60	L J Mahan 40	Mahan 40	J Criss 38 32	80	Algo Rhamel 40	CE Rhamel 40		
P Burke 22 43	1148	1968 Dave Burns	R L Ladd 49	MS Boston 40	E Maratta 39 70	John Wise 26 66	John Wise 26 66		
S N Shaker 30	E James Criss 48	Walter Shropen 20	Charles Rhamel 38 1/2	Harvey Asbury 38	MS School House	John Wise 26 66	E J Wise 33	26 66	27
Sarah Hamilton 29	Wm Lucas 25	Rosal Bemis		Shiloh Church 2	SC Mahan 40	John Wise 26 66	J W Wise 10	E J Wise 33	27
Jas M Sinclair 40	40	Marietta Case 120		S Ferry	John Chaney 40	US Powder Co 232 25			
40	Wm Heagy 40	Jas M Sinclair 40	40	Ed Walters 40	40	3875	Mason Cook 3275		

District No. 6 is located in the northeastern part of the township. The land in this district is rather broken and not well adapted to farming. The soil is clay and was once productive, but a greater part of it has been tilled year after year without much fertilization so that it is no longer very productive. However, there are a few farms that are in good condition.

In 1886 a great deal of the southeastern section of the district was sold for coal to the company that operated the Alum Cave Mine. After this mine was abandoned a great deal of this land was purchased by the U. S. Powder Company which operates the plant in this district.

Some of the first settlers of this

district were Robert Richey, Martin Biggs and Billy Hughbanks. They entered land here about 1835. Some of those who came later were James B. Mahan, Walter Asbury and H. T. Pierson.

Coal was first mined in this district in 1858, about one mile south-east of Shiloh church. The land was owned by George Barnett. There was little demand for coal in those days except for smithing, so occasionally a load was dug out of the hill near the old "Alum Cave Rock" and carted away by oxen to Centerville, now known as Lewis, and sold to the blacksmith for three cents a bushel. On the opposite side of the creek from the mine the coal was on fire at this time. It had been set on



fire for the purpose of destroying the rattlesnakes that denned in the hill. These rocks were a famous resort for rattlesnakes, and they became a great menace to the neighborhood. The men waged constant war upon them. In the spring while it was yet too cool for the snakes to crawl away they would crawl out upon the rocks in the sun to warm up. Then the men would often kill three or four hundred snakes a day.

The mine near No. 6 school house now operated by Mr. Marratta, was first operated in 1868 by Walter Asbury. He began digging the coal out of the ravine and burning it in a grate. It was unusual at that time to use coal for a fuel.

This district contains one road which is rocked. This crosses the district and passes Shiloh Church. The rest of the roads are poor and become almost impassable during the winter.

At the beginning of the war a number of men enlisted from this district. Some of them were Jonathan Rehmel, Abraham Wise, Pierce Gorby, H. T. Pierson, John Nelson, Edwin Bemis, Joe McCray, Andy McCray, Elijah Brock, S. W. Asbury, Henry Bratton, Tom Crawford, Silenus Rehmel and Joe Asbury.

Prior to 1870 the children of this district were compelled to go to No. 5 or No. 7 to get what education they received. In that year the first school house of the district was built. It was a frame structure and stood a little south of the present building. Some of the first teachers were Peter Grant, Milton Dell, William Grant, Charley Grant, Callie Grant and James Barcus. Some of those who followed were Dr. G. F. Plew, Jabes Asbury, Mollie Ladd and Melissa Chambers.

After the mines at Alum Cave were opened the enrollment averaged about seventy-five and often reached ninety. The building was too small to accommodate this number so an addition of fifteen feet in length was put to the building, in 1891. A great deal of interest was taken in the schools at this time and in 1893 a literary club, which is dis-

cussed elsewhere in this history, was organized here which gave entertainments to raise funds with which to buy books for the library which had been started. This library increased until it grew to be the largest one in the township at that time.

Those who attended school here when the first school house was built will remember the following incident. It was while attending school in the winter of 1870-71 that Henry Hayes, a lad fifteen years old, one morning before starting to school, proposed to try his marksmanship with an old muzzle loader rifle. When he fired the gun the breech-pin was blown out of the gun into Henry's head. The breech-pin was a heavy piece of iron about the size of a man's thumb. There it remained four months, despite the efforts of the best surgeons of the country. While great quantities of the brain and fragments of the skull were removed, yet it did not prove fatal. After remaining there for four months it worked its way out the way it entered. After a few days Henry went on to school, acquired an education, grew to manhood, moved out west and made good as a farmer.

This case was discussed in different medical journals and was considered a unique case by medical men.

In 1859 a Methodist Church was organized in this district and named the Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church. Some of the charter members were Asa Mahan and wife, James B. Mahan and wife, John Watson and wife, William Hughbanks and wife, Pierce Gorby and wife and Andy Ritchey and wife. The first services were held at the homes of the members but soon a church building was erected. The carpenter work was done by George Barnett and Walter Asbury and the plastering by James B. Mahan. The same building is yet standing but in 1891 it was turned to face the south and remodeled. Some of the first preachers at this church were Rev. Green and Rev. Bowers. The church





was dedicated by the Rev. John Kiger.

The only one of the charter members now living is Mrs. Mary Crawford, better known as Aunt Mary Mahan. She with the help of a few faithful members has kept the church alive through all these years and to the ones who have grown up and gone away from this district their faces are a happy remembrance of the little church around the corner.

#### The United States Powder Plant.

In 1904 the U. S. Powder company, of which Mr. Job Freeman is president, purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Jackson Township, one mile northwest of Coalmont, and erected the first building of the present powder plant and also built a switch from the plant to the main line of the C., T. H. & S. E. Railroad, north of Coalmont. The farm on which the plant is located was formerly known as the Crawford Farm. It is a good location for the plant because it furnishes both water and stone in abundance. The plant consists of a power house and several departments of powder-making machinery. The first department consists of the soda beaters, the stock house and the soda charge house. The second department consists of the pulverizer, the brimstone and charcoal stock house, and composition charge house. In the pulverizer the charcoal and brimstone are pulverized into dust by being put into tubular iron barrels which rotate.

The third department consists of the wheel mills where the soda, charcoal and brimstone are milled under eight or ten ton wheels which mix the above mentioned ingredients into powder. Water in quantity varying according to temperature and atmospheric conditions, is added to prevent explosions.

The fourth department consists of the presses where the powder is pressed into cakes, 24 inches square by 1-1/2 inches thick, by hydraulic pressure from three to five thousand pounds to the square inch, according to the density demanded by the

manufacturers.

The fifth department consists of the corning mills where the powder is cut into grains by being run through brass rolls which cut it into various sized grains.

The sixth department consists of the glazes where the powder is loaded into tubular barrels which rotate. Here it is heated by friction to the proper temperature to drive out moisture. When properly dried it is loaded to keep out moisture.

The seventh department consists of the packing houses where the powder is screened and graded according to the size of the grains, and weighed in a scoop which holds twenty-five pounds. It is then put into kegs and sealed. It is now ready for use. It is now taken from the packing houses to the magazine and loaded into cars or stored for shipment.

Since the opening of the plant, the company has purchased a number of small tracts of adjoining land until the entire tract now comprises between six and seven hundred acres of land. A great many additional buildings have been erected. There are in all about forty buildings besides the dwelling houses erected for the employees, the principal of which is the beautiful bungalow in which Mr. Sarchet, the superintendent of the plant, lives.

The first powder was made Dec. 3, 1904, and on Dec. 9, the output for the day was four hundred forty-four kegs. At first thirty men were employed, but now the mill employs seventy men and the output per day is fifteen hundred kegs of powder.

The materials used in the making of powder are charcoal, brimstone, and nitric soda. The soda used here comes from Chile, S. A., and the sulphur from Sulphur, La.

The men employed at this plant belong to the organization of United Powder and High Explosive Workers of America, Local 127. This local was instituted Oct. 27, 1904, with the following officers:

James Thompson, President.

Richard Overby, Vice-president.

S. M. Stewart, Secretary.





The officers at present are:  
James Thompson, President.  
J. B. Mathers, Vice-president.  
S. M. Stewart, Secretary.

The men employed here are the best paid powder workers in the United States. Some of our best citizens are employed here. This plant has an excellent record. There have been few accidents or injuries since the opening of the plant, which is due to the vigilance of the superintendent and to the careful and trustworthy men employed here. Instead of becoming a menace, as some feared at first, the U. S. Powder Plant has proved a boon to our community.

#### Alum Cave.

It will not be long until the little town of Alum Cave, which used to be such a flourishing mining camp, will no longer be remembered, for the place where it stood a few years back is already overgrown with grass and shrubbery. Nothing is left but one house and the old railroad track and trestle.

It was about the year 1886 that the New Pittsburg Coal and Coke Company bought the first coal land and built the first houses of Alum Cave. This name was given to the town because of an alum spring found near it.

The first coal land bought by the company was owned by Asa Mahan and Daniel Goble. These men owned about one hundred and eighty acres of hilly land for which they received twenty-five dollars an acre for the coal and top. Later the company bought more land until finally it owned about four hundred acres.

The E. & T. H. railroad built a switch from Farmersburg to Alum Cave. This switch extended from Alum Cave through Miller's Switch and Bridwell's Switch to the main line of the E. & T. H., south of Farmersburg. This line was completed in September, 1886. Later this track was torn up and a new one built which joined a branch of the E. & T. H. about a mile and a quarter south of Hymera.

The building of the first shaft was begun in May, 1886. The store

building, hotel and dwelling houses were soon added and the work of taking out coal was begun. The coal vein found here was No. 5. It ranged from six to eight feet in thickness and had an excellent roof of limestone. It contained the finest coal found in this section of the country. The store, which was known as the Company Store, to distinguish it from Fred Cochran's store which was situated at the east end of town just across the road in Clay County, was a large building and contained in stock everything needed by the people of the community,—groceries, dry goods, china, hardware and drugs. It also contained the postoffice and the mine office. This store was always an excellent market for all produce that the farmers had to sell.

The dwelling houses were owned by the company and, like too many other mining camps, they presented the usual dreary sameness of structure so that the occupants distinguished their houses by numbers rather than appearance.

I have often wondered why the coal companies persist in building the workmens' houses all alike when it would cost so little to vary the shape of the houses and the color of paint. This one thing has led many people to feel that mine operators are rather an inhuman lot.

Another instance that showed how little they thought of the comfort of their employees was the water supply of the town. One well supplied practically all the people of the town and it was located down in a valley between two hills on which the houses were located, so that the water had to be carried up a very steep hill. Many women of the village carried all the water used by the family and for the washing as well. In dry seasons when the water was low, some would get up as early as three o'clock in order to get water before it became muddy. Yet the people of this town liked their home and were happy. I recently heard one old resident of the place say that nowhere else would ever seem like home to him.



There were very few buildings besides the store and dwelling houses. The first depot was a box car but later a good building was erected. The first school house was a small one-room building, shaped like the houses. Later the township and the Red Men's lodge jointly erected a two story building. The lower floor was owned by the township and contained two school rooms. The upper story became the Red Men's hall.

The coke ovens, which were objects of interest to the surrounding country, were built in 1888 and were located on the side of the hill between the railroad station and the main part of town. They were built of the fire-clay brick in the shape of arches with openings through which the coal was put and had chimneys at the top from which the smoke escaped. The coal was brought from the mine to the ovens on a small track. It was then washed and put into the ovens. After being set on fire, the doors were partly closed. When the coal had burned until the smoke was no longer black, the ovens were shut up so that no air could get in. After having burned in this way for the required length of time the ovens were opened and cold water poured on the coke to cool it. This caused the coke to crack. The men then came with large hooks and lifted the coke out. There were about fifty of these ovens and when all were working, the output of coke was about twenty-five or thirty tons per day.

When the mines were first started, picks were used, but later machines were used to mine the coal. The first wages received were very low in comparison with those of today. Many men worked ten hours a day for one dollar and a quarter. Later they received one dollar and a half for loading, and two dollars for machine work. When the mine was at its best, it gave employment to about three hundred men. The miners were not as well organized then as now. The first labor organization at that place was known as the Knights of Labor. Wages, how-

ever, were not materially affected until in 1893 when the miners of Alum Cave undertook to join the organization known as the United Mine Workers of America. Upon meeting resistance from the operators, a strike was called by the miners and a long hard fight ensued between the laborers and the operators. Many families were destitute, but they did not yield. During the strike, coal was shipped from the south to Chicago to fill the orders that should have been filled by Alum Cave. The miners did not like this so they ran some of the cars of coal off on the switch and burned them. The state militia was then called to settle the disturbance. About three hundred militiamen marched across country from Farmersburg to Alum Cave. Although they did little toward settling the trouble, they made excellent headlines for the newspapers. The strike was finally settled by the operators granting both higher wages and right to join the U. M. W. of A.

Some objects of rather unusual interest aside from the ovens were the alum spring and artesian well. The alum spring which gave the town its name was a little spring running out from the rocks. A large rock overhung it, thus causing it to be called a cave. The spring may be seen yet at the base of a perpendicular mass of rock, sending out a tiny stream of water, clear as crystal.

Not a great many people new know that Alum Cave contained an artesian well. It was drilled to a depth of twenty-two hundred feet and the water was said to be unusually good for artesian water.

Some of the prominent men who had to do with Alum Cave are C. Richards, C. C. Harter and J. C. Seifert, all of Chicago. The first superintendent of the mine was Paul Wright and the first mine boss was Frank Wilkinson. The last superintendent was J. P. Gilmore.

Perhaps the man who had most to do with the history of the place, and who was most loyal to the little town and its inhabitants, was George Schuberth, the bookkeeper for the



company and also postmaster of the town for a number of years.

In Westville, Illinois, there is one man, the cashier of the First National Bank at that place, who often comes back to visit the site of this old mining camp. He came to Alum Cave one Sunday in April, 1892, when nineteen years old. He secured work in the mine at one dollar and a half a day. He was at the entrance of the "broad and easy road" that leads nowhere, but he did not take it. He moved his mother and sisters to the little town and worked for their support. He joined the Hub Reading Society at No. 6 and borrowed books which he read in the mines between cars. At one time he committed the Declaration of Independence by the light of his bank lamp. No honest effort is ever expended in vain, as was proved in his case. He has made good in the business world and has not dishonored the man for whom he was named. This man is Abraham Lincoln Somers, of Westville, Illinois.

In 1894, Mr. William Johnson, a young man without money, friends or experience as a miner, secured work in what was known as Slope Mine No. 2. He read a great deal, had a good memory, and was a close observer of what was going on. He became interested in mines and mining. He took up the labor problem and was victimized in Sullivan county on account of his activity in the U. M. W. of A. He afterwards went to Westville, Illinois, where he, with Mr. Somers, took up a correspondence course in mines and mining. He is now General Manager of the Saline County Coal Company of Chicago, Illinois. He says that it was at Alum Cave that he decided to be something more than a hobo.

Work was discontinued at Alum Cave mine in 1903 and the houses moved away. Alum Cave is no longer found upon the map and will soon have disappeared from the memory as well, for the place that used to be so full of life is now field and forest.

Some old residents of this district are Mrs. Mary Crawford, Mrs. Fanny

Strahle, Mrs. John Nelson and Mr. and Mrs. Milton Dell, whose biographies are given below:

#### Mr. and Mrs. John Nelson.

John Nelson was born in Vermilion County, Illinois, Sept. 19, 1839. He came to Jackson Township in the early fifties. He served in the Civil War in Company F of the 31st Indiana Volunteers. While with Sherman on his march to the sea he received a gunshot wound in the cheek in a battle near Kenesaw Mountain, on June 17, 1864. He was married three times and was the father of nine children, five of whom are living. They are William, Mrs. Lafayette Brock, Thomas, Harry and Guy. The last two mentioned are the sons of his last wife, Mahalia Furry, who was born Jan. 15, 1859. Mr. Nelson was a member of the G. A. R. and of the Masonic Lodge at Lewis. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson were both members of the Shiloh M. E. Church. Mrs. Nelson is at present living with her son Guy, on the home place.

#### Mr. and Mrs. Milton C. Dell.

Mr. Milton Dell, the eldest son of Thomas and Jane Waller Dell, was born Jan. 1, 1839 in Harrison County, Ohio. He later came to Clay County, Indiana. While in Ohio he became a teacher and after coming to Indiana he taught for eight years. In May, 1864, he enlisted for service in the Civil War in Company F of the Sixty-first Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, served four months and was discharged. He later re-enlisted in Company F of the Thirteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry and was discharged in July, 1865, having while at Raleigh, North Carolina, contracted catarrh from which he has never fully recovered. On April 20, 1873, he married Kate A. James of Jackson Township. There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dell four children. They are Carrie, Mollie, deceased, Mattie and Maude. Mr. and Mrs. Dell are members of the Methodist Church at Shiloh.

#### Mrs. Mary Crawford.

Aunt Mary was born in Mason County, Kentucky, in 1828, and moved to Jackson Township when



she was nine years old. Her father first settled and lived on the farm east of Hymera now owned by John Keen. She has lived in Jackson Township practically all her life and has seen it change from a forest of heavy timber abounding with wild game to the Jackson Township of 1915. At that time there were no churches in the township and but one school house. This was made of logs and stood on the ground near where Hymera Methodist church now stands. She remembers the building of the old log church where she became a member at the age of thirteen. In 1846 she was married to James B. Mahan and soon moved to the farm where she now lives with her son, Samuel G. Mahan, near Shiloh Church.

She is the mother of six children. Tellghtha, Alice, Laura, Josephine, Samuel and Althea. Of these only

Samuel Mahan, Mrs. Josephine Liston and Mrs. Alice Husband are living.

**Mrs. Fanny Strable.**

Mrs. Fanny Strable was born April 9, 1835 in Somerset county, Pa. She was the oldest of a family of twelve children. At the age of twelve years her parents moved to Holmes county, Ohio. In 1852 she was married to John George Strable, who had come to this country from Germany six years before. Thirteen years later they moved to Owen county, Indiana, where her husband bought a farm. In the year 1870, her husband's death came as a terrible blow, he having been killed by damps in a well in which he was working, leaving his widow with nine children. Four years later she moved with her family to Jackson township and has since that time resided in District No. 6.









Mahan and John Plew to place their saw-mill here and saw this timber for him. This mill ran continuously for almost three years in cutting away the timber. A great deal of this timber was sawed into heavy timbers which were used by the mines of the neighborhood. After the timber was removed the land was sold to the Gilbert Brothers, Harve Patton and Purty Pullis. It has been tiled and is now some of the best farming land of the community.

Some of the soldiers from this district who served in the Civil War were Josiah Worth, Joel Barcus, and Samuel Nicholson.

The first school house in this district was built about 1854, one-half mile north of the present site, and was on the northwest corner of the place now owned by Mrs. Nancy Ladd. It was known as the Stinnet School House and was a rude log building with split logs for seats. There were no desks and whenever anyone had any writing to do he was obliged to go to the front of the room and write on a piece of a split log, held in place by wooden legs. This school house had glass windows, and a stove was placed in the middle of the room. At that time the length of the term of school was only three months. The first teacher was James B. Mahan, the father of Samuel G. Mahan. The first pupils were Arittah Stinnet, Harriet Stinnet, Jim Stinnet, Dan Stinnet, Asa Stinnet, Samuel Nicholson, Theodore Mahan, Jeremiah Mahan, Samuel G. Mahan, Catherine Grant, Lizzie Grant, Anna Grant, Willie Grant, Charley Grant, Chauncey McDaniel, Elmira McDaniel, Silas Maples, John Tennis, William Tennis, Wesley Tennis, Oliver Tennis, Elizabeth Hughbanks, Mary Hughbanks, Matilda Hughbanks, Mary Bowman, Willie Bowman, John Bowman. The Stinnetts were considered excellent spellers, for they could spell every word in the old elementary spelling book. At this time No. 7 school was the best school in spelling in the township.

The next teacher was Mary Jane Asbury, who taught a subscription

school. One dollar and fifty cents was charged for each pupil. The next teacher was a Mr. Armsby. The log school house stood until about 1870 when it was abandoned and a frame school house was built in the center of the district by contributions. Some of the logs of that old school house may still be found in the walls of an old house standing on the place now owned by Allen Gouckenous about a mile east of where the old school house stood.

The frame school house stood until about 1900 when a new brick school house was built. This building stood until the fall of 1912, when it was all burned except the walls and foundation. The way in which the school house caught fire was never learned. The pupils were then hauled in a school wagon to Hymera where a vacant room in the new high school building was prepared for them. All of the grades were taught in the same way as before. The following fall the present frame building was built. This school is now known as the Ladd school.

#### The K. of P. Cemetery.

The K. of P. Cemetery was purchased by the K. of P. lodge of Hymera from Sam Nicholson in 1907 for six hundred dollars. It contains six acres, and is divided into four equal blocks, A, B, C, and D, by gravel roads. In the center of this cemetery there is a circle twelve feet in diameter, which was laid off in which to erect a monument.

Those buried in this cemetery in 1908 were George Gouckenour, the first to be buried in the cemetery, Bill H. Mahan, Ross Bickel, George Peyton, and Ona Gheagon.

Those buried here in 1909 were Mrs. Tom Gibson, Mrs. Otto Mahan, Mrs. Ona Gheagon, Mayford Gage, Alvie Pruitt, Lula Turner, John Julian, and a child of Cliff Buell, a child of Harve Patton and a child of Mrs. Lottie Cummins.

Those buried here in 1910 were Orville Highsmith, Thomas Davidson, Twins of Cliff Buel, a child of Bill Shepherd, Mrs. Betty Nelson, Mr. Solomon Parsons, Mr. Sam Stan-



ton, Mr. David Shepherd, a child of Harry Kappler, Mr. F. M. Wierks, Mattie Kline, Gilbert Barber, Mrs. Pearl Priest and Oern Stringfield.

Those buried here in 1911 were Miss Cora Julian, Mrs. Julian, (moved from old cemetery), Mrs. Rosa Reberger, Luna Starks, William Rust, James Parson, a child of John Smith, Louis Steele, Walter Gordon and William Eppert.

Those buried in 1912 were Jack Humphreys, John Patterson, Ollie Shepherd, Mrs. George Wilson, Mrs. Harve Patton, Mrs. Dean Cummins, Harry Vanarsdall, Sol Furry, Louise Kinsman, Mrs. Lee Morris and Bill Hamilton.

Those buried in 1913 were Chas. Allen, Judith Nelson, John William Carpenter, a child of John Bemis, Mary Clark, Thelma Shipley, Mrs. George Kemmur, Bill Ralston, a child of Bill Moore, John McMillen, and William McGrew.

Those buried in 1914 were Chas. Cooper, William Shaw, Lucy Dix, Martha Keene, Tom Faulds, Sr., Marion Beckett, a child of Charley Coker, Claude Vanarsdall and Bush Simpson.

The oldest residents of the district are Mrs. Ladd, Mr. Majors, Mrs. Tennis, Mrs. Worth and Mr. and Mrs. Barcus, whose biographies are given below.

#### Mr. and Mrs. William T. Ladd.

William T. Ladd was born in Kentucky in 1836 and moved to Jackson County, Indiana, a few years later. After residing here for a few years he moved to Illinois. From there he moved to Jackson township, Sullivan County, Indiana, and located on a farm where Dunnville now stands on which place he grew to manhood. On March 13, 1863 he married Nancy Delaney Plew and moved to the farm where Mrs. Ladd now lives. Mrs. Ladd was the granddaughter of Albert Plew, who was one of the very first settlers of Jackson township. He was a native of Kentucky and served in the Revolutionary War. He located about one mile south of No. 3 school house, where he died in 1850 at the age of ninety-four years. David

and Abraham of Jackson township and George of Greene county were his sons. In 1830 his son Abraham entered quite a tract of land in district No. 3 where he lived until his death in 1875. His wife's maiden name was Carithers. The children of this family were Christopher who died in early manhood, John Wesley, William Pearson, James Abraham, and Nancy Delaney, who later believes with her son, R. L. Ladd on lives with her son, R. L. Ladd on the farm to which he came fifty-two years ago.

#### John M. Majors.

John M. Majors was born in White county, Illinois, February 1, 1832. He was the son of Wright and Atha Rachel Duncan Majors. He moved to Clay county, Indiana and lived many years. Later he moved to Illinois but in 1907 he moved to Jackson township where he now lives. He enlisted for service in the Civil War as a private in Company B, of the 149th Regiment of Indiana Volunteers. On February 11, 1855 he was married to Nancy M. Smith, now deceased. She was born Sept. 28, 1837. To Mr. and Mrs. Majors were born five children; Mrs. Emmeline Inman, Rebecca, Thomas of Clay county, Mrs. Mahala Shepherd Tipton, and Mrs. Dessie May Bough, with whom Mr. Majors is now living.

#### Mary Tennis Worth.

Mary Tennis was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, October 9, 1835. She was the daughter of John and Nancy Rose Tennis, both of whom were born in the same county. In 1853 her father came to Sullivan county and settled on the farm where Mrs. Worth now resides. Her father died in 1873 and her mother in 1888. Mary Tennis married Josiah Worth, who was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, in 1830. Mr. Worth entered the 85th Indiana Regiment in 1862. He died at Lexington from sickness contracted in the army. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Worth; James, living southeast of Hymera; John, deceased; Mrs. Joseph Gordon of Clay County and Anna, deceased wife of John B. Nicholson of Jack-



son township. Mrs. Worth now resides with her son James.--

**Mr. and Mrs. Joel M. Barcus.**

Joel M. Barcus, son of Jeremiah and Anna Manwarring Barcus, was born in the northern part of Jackson township, October 28, 1842. He was a farmer and carpenter as long as he was able to follow these occupations. Mr. Barcus enlisted in the service of the Union Army in 1861, in Company F, of the 31st Regiment of Indiana Volunteers. He was under Generals Rosecrans and Thomas, Col. Charles Cruft, and Captain John T. Smith. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Stone River, Missionary Ridge, Nashville, and Chicamauga and was with Sherman in his march to the sea. He was married March 27, 1866 to Cynthia McCammon. To this union were born the following: Mrs. Wallace Reed of Shelburn, Mrs. James Burress of near Hymera, Bert Barcus of Vincennes, Mrs. John May of Jasonville, John Barcus of near Hymera,

George Barcus, now in the Philippine islands, and Mrs. Lily Burress, deceased.

**Diana Worth Tennis.**

Diana Worth, the daughter of James and Elizabeth Romig Worth, was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio. The Worth family came to Sullivan county in 1858 and located on a farm in Cass township. Diana was married to John Tennis, Oct. 11, 1863. Mr. Tennis, the son of John J. and Nancy Rose Tennis, was born April 28, 1842 and died Dec. 17, 1899. To Mr. and Mrs. Tennis were born nine children: James William, deceased; Charles Martin, a farmer in South Dakota; Mary Elizabeth, deceased; Jacob Henry, who lives with his mother; John Harrison, a farmer of Greene county, Martha Ann Mattox, of near Coalmont, Mrs. Ida Jane Brewer of Northwestern Canada; Alfred Alonzo, of near Jasonville and Roscoe Scott of near Hymera.





## JACKSON TOWNSHIP DISTRICT TEACHERS.



From left to right, top row—Mary Scott, district No. 2, A. C. Parsons, district No. 10, Sadie Gilman, district No. 4. Second row—Marie Barnett, district No. 5, Edna Brunker, district No. 3, Lessa Rallsback, district No. 6, Tina Furry, district No. 10. Third row—Garland Eaton, district No. 7, Mary Hammond, district No. 1, Everett Dumond, district No. 11, Nora Mahan, district No. 9, Jesse Boston, district No. 3.

## HYMERA GRADE TEACHERS.



From left to right, top row—Myrtle Maratta, third grade, Margaret McGrew, fourth grade, Fay Beckett, sixth grade, Ruth Parsons, first grade. Middle row—Vilas Asbury, fifth grade, Gladys Zink, second grade, Lena VanArsdall, fifth grade, Sallie VanArsdall, second and third grades. Lower row—Vina Syster, seventh grade, Eurnie Stutsman, first grade, Naomi Laue, supervisor of music, C. C. Bosstick, principal, eighth grade, Ruth Nead, first grade.



# Chapter 9. District No. 8 and Hymera

Nelson Bond 14 C. Brown 16 C.I.C. Co 10 Con. Ind Coal Co 3691	39 Lloyd Mc C.A. Bannan Ed Runyan R. Runyan 10 Laura Myers 20	D.E. Mahan 10 163 L.D.S. M.H. 39 Anna Sims 850 Erra Mahan Archibald	Oliver Spaul 40 Bellevue 13 Anna Garris 12 Vester Clark 10 P. Pullis 40
Jno. Harding 20 C. Nicholson 20 Allan Gouckonow 18.75 20 E.B. Peterson 92.25 Jas. Slack 24.75 A. Van MacMillan	3986 Robert Harris 37 35 Con. Ind Coal Co. 40 9880	3750 40 9880	Vina Gordon 40 3823 M. Sumner 20 Sue McKee 20 Oscar Gilbert 120 M. Sumner 20 Sue McKee 20 W.S. Gilman 40
C.T.H.S.E. R.R. 2244 1565 C.I.C. Co 75.08 R. Shepherd 2 C.I.C. Co 35 Nathan Bakers 132.5 Henry Patton 50.50 W.H. Patton 29.06 J.B. Tipton 20 C. Tipton 20 Joe Tipton 18.50	Town of Hymera Con. Ind Coal Co. 8975 Con. Ind Coal Co. 160	25 W.T. Shepherd 40 Con. Ind Coal Co. 160	Hanne Ring 44.15 Jesse Ring 35 Wm. Case 80 A. Ring 33 28 20 Marrion B. Case 40

District No. 8 is in the south central part of the township and contains the town of Hymera. With the exception of the northwest section of the district, the land is rather broken. Farming was the principal industry in the pioneer days, but for many year the mining industry has completely overshadowed it. The majority of the men of district No. 8 and the town of Hymera are miners. The mining interests of the district will be discussed later.

Hymera, the principal town of Jackson township, was not platted as a townsite until about 1870, but as early as 1830 there were a few pioneer settlers here. William Pitt was the first to enter land here. The other early settlers were Martin

Hale, Nathan Hinkle, Jerry Mahan, John Badders, Reason Beckett, Michael Zink, Hosea Payne. John McCammon, Henry Barnhart, and Thomas Shepherd. Later there came Jack Beckett, Bob Linn, Dr. Williams, Dr. Hiatt, William J. Beckett and the Larr Brothers. Wm. Pitt was the owner of the land on which Hymera was built. He had bought it from the government at one dollar and a quarter an acre. When Nathan Hinkle platted the site the name Pittsburg was selected in honor of the local resident and was perhaps suggested by the great coal center of Pennsylvania.

The first houses built were log houses consisting of two or three rooms and a wide open fireplace.



The houses of William Pitt and Martin Hale were probably the very first houses built. Mr. Pitt's being situated where Nathan Hinkle now lives and Mr. Hale's on the present site of the Pullis property. Later Bob Linn built a house on the site of Gilbert Beckett's residence. Dr. Williams lived near Scott's hardware store, Dora Perry where Otis Turner now lives and Wash and Jarret Larr's houses stood on the east side of Gilman's hardware store. Dr. Plew's and Dr. Thralls' houses which were built later, were situated at their present site in the west part of town and Squire Starks was near the postoffice. Mary J. Beckett lived at her present location, and Nathan Hinkle near the Barnhart hotel.

It was not until the coming of the Laur Brothers and Bob Linn in 1859 that Pittsburg showed any signs of activity in business affairs. Bob Linn established a general store on the site where Henry Julian's store now stands and the Laur Brothers established a saw-mill just back of the present opera house. It was probably but a few years later when other business houses were put up. A grocery store owned by Milton Stark was situated on the site of the present postoffice. The first drug store was owned by Tom Scott and stood a little north of where Gilbert Beckett now lives. The first furniture store was established by Chas. Barnhart, west of Mr. Gilman's hardware store. Jim Barnett owned the first hardware store and Frank Zimmerman the first meat market in 1888, and later Burr Watson established another. W. H. Cooper owned the first feed store. The first blacksmiths were George W. Ring, Joe Asbury, and Dora Perry. Joe Asbury owned a blacksmith shop in 1870, situated where Turner's barn now stands.

As early as 1829 a grist mill is said to have been erected southeast of town on Busseron creek. At a later date a water and saw-mill owned by Jerry Mahan was located west of town near where Bud Gard now lives. Although these mills were not in town the people of Pitts-

burg probably received greater benefit from them than anyone else. The first mill of Hymera was a grist mill erected by Ira and Wash Larr in 1867. In 1882 Mr. P. Stutsman erected a flour mill where the bank now stands.

The mail was first brought from Cass, but later a grocery store and postoffice combined was established north of town where Ish Barnes now lives. John Badders was the first postmaster and gave the postoffice the name of Hymera. Two other early postmasters were Mr. Foxworthy and Bob Linn.

In 1870 the name of the town was changed from Pittsburg to Hymera. The reason for changing was that the name of the town might correspond with the name of the postoffice. Then too, a coal mine had been opened at Alum Cave and Alum Cave as a new town took the name of New Pittsburg. Thereafter Pittsburg was called Old Pittsburg. The result was a great deal of confusion concerning the mail and other matters pertaining to the two towns. Therefore, in April of that year, a petition from nearly all the voters was laid before the county commissioners, asking that the name of the town as recorded on the plat should be changed to Hymera, which was done.

In 1880, according to a census taken by Sam Nicholson, the population of Hymera was thirty-four, but at the present time it is estimated at two thousand.

Dr. Williams was the first doctor to locate here. Later other doctors came. Dr. Hill located northwest of town on the Beasley homestead. Dr. Hiatt occupied Dr. Plew's residence and Dr. Baldrige where Henry Patton now lives. The doctors who practiced here at a still later date were Dr. Marshall, Dr. Caffey, Dr. Plew and Dr. Thralls.

At a very early date a coal mine owned by H. W. and Harvey Wilson was sunk west of the town. This was one of the first mines of the county. The coal was used chiefly by the blacksmiths and was hauled in wagons to all parts of the county.



Coal operations, however, began upon a more extensive scale in 1870, and since that time coal mining has been the chief industry of the town and township.

The town was first incorporated in 1902. The land platted extended three-fourths of a mile in each direction. The principal streets were Main, Jackson, Vine, State, Wright, and Beckett. The beginning of the construction of the sidewalks was commenced in 1904.

The present system of lighting the streets was installed in 1910, the franchise for the same having been granted to H. L. Hiatt for twenty-five years. The power for lighting is derived from the electric light plant at Jasonville.

The first shoe cobblers of Hymera were John Spear and Hosea Payne. They each worked at home. In 1882 Mr. John Osborne built the first shoe shop. The first millinery store was owned by Ella Manwarring and was located where the Odd Fellows Building now stands. The first jewelry store was established in 1893 by James Nicholson. The first newspaper of Hymera was the "Hymera Gazette" edited by Joe V. Entwistle from 1899 to 1904. Fred Finney then edited the "Hymera Herald" until 1909. Several other attempts have been made to furnish Hymera with a newspaper, but all have failed.

The Hymera Bank was established with a capital of fifteen thousand dollars in December, 1903, by S. M. Patton and R. L. Ladd. It was made a state bank in January, 1906 with Mr. Ladd as president and Mr. Patton as cashier.

#### Hymera Schools.

The first school house in Hymera was a log house located where Chas. Barnhart's Hotel now stands. One of the teachers at this building was Harvey Wilson.

The second school house stood where the M. E. church now stands. It was built about 1840. It was also a log house, similar to all the log school houses which have been described. Some of the teachers at this building were James B. Mahan,

John Wilson and Rev. Joseph Asbury. Some of the people who attended school here were Susan Beckett and Martha Hinkle.

The third school house was located on the hill opposite Chas. Bennett's home, north of Hymera. It was built about 1850 and was known as the Township House. Some of the pupils who attended school here were Albert Zink, F. M. Nead, Thos. Hughes, and Catherine Nead, and some of the teachers were Caroline Mahan, Henry Hopewell, Mary Jane Butler, Clay Woods, Kenneth Self, Charles Finney, Bill Denney, Mary Beckett, and Lizzie Beckett Heaven-ridge.

The fourth school house in this district stood on the ground now occupied by Charles Rusher's home. It was built in 1875 while James Plew was trustee. It was a frame building. Some of the pupils who attended this school were Cora Barnett, Allie Payne, Sarah Sink, Jesse Scott, Bettie Tichenor, Mary Scott and John Furry. The first teacher in this building was Mrs. Joe Asbury. Some other teachers were John Barnett, J. S. Barcus, T. D. Strawn, and Alice Payne. In 1888 a second room was added to this building. Some of the teachers here were Cora Barnett, F. M. Nead, R. C. King, Maggie McGrew, and Charles Lloyd. The pupils who attended school here are well known residents of Hymera and vicinity. Later two rooms were not large enough to accommodate the students and another room was rented in town.

In 1895 a brick building was erected which now forms part of the grade building. It contained four school rooms and a large hall on the third floor. The first teachers at this building were J. L. Berlingmier, Cora Case, Margaret McGrew and Mrs. Stella Botts Woodrow. It was in this year that the first year of high school work was added. The town soon grew until the hall on the third floor had to be converted into school rooms. It was not long, however, until these rooms were overcrowded. In 1905 an addition of four rooms





was built to the six room building, and a heating plant installed in the building. The town continued to grow rapidly and it was not long until it became necessary to seek other quarters for the high school. In 1911 the work on the present high school was commenced. It was completed in the summer of 1912, at a cost of twenty-four thousand dollars. It is a beautiful building and modern in every particular. It was dedicated August 13, 1912, the dedicatory address being made by State Superintendent, Charles A. Great-house. School opened in the new building in September, 1912. The high school teachers were W. L. Connor, Mrs. C. O. Self, Myrtle Barnett, R. W. Kent, and Maude Smith.

The first high school commencement in Jackson township was held in 1909. The graduates were A. C. Parsons, Faye Beckett, Eurnie Stutsman, Lena Vanarsdall and Ella McCarty.

The Hymera High School was first commissioned in 1910. At present there are six teachers in the high school and twelve in the grades. There are ninety-eight students enrolled in the high school and about five hundred in the grades.

#### The Hymera Baptist Church.

The Hymera Baptist Church was organized at District No. 7 School House in 1881 by the Rev. G. W. Terry. The charter members were: George Gouckenour, Emeline Gouckenour, Martha A. Gouckenour, Allen Gouckenour, Anna Gouckenour, Julia A. Craft, Robert Alumbaugh, Elvina Alumbaugh, Olive M. Craig and Sarah Anderson Hoggett.

The first building was built in 1884 on the northeast corner of Noah Ring's farm. It was moved to Hymera and reconstructed in 1900. This new building was dedicated Sept. 1, 1901. The dedication sermon was preached by Rev. Albert Ogle, Superintendent of State Missions. One Association was held at the old church in 1888 and another in 1904, after the building had been moved to Hymera.

Those who have been ministers of this church are: J. M. Turner, Al

Hannah, H. C. Liston, C. B. Allen, Joe Ellis, Joe Ellis Spears, J. H. Fuson, D. P. Liston, W. A. Fuson, George Fuson, James Saunders, T. N. Fuson, J. R. Hinman, J. L. Sherrill, D. C. Carnahan and Henry Happel.

The present members are: Althea Alumbaugh, Miss Arthur, Mary Bonham, Joda Bonham Puckett, Carrie Bell, Nora Merrill, Jane Bailey Evans, Lizzie Bailey, Mary Bailey, Milton Cummins, Luella Cummins, Elliott Coleman, Elearia Coleman, Estelle Crawford, Cliff Curtis, Mamie Curtis, George Cravens, Sylvia Coleman Annis, Ruth Coleman, Ethel Custer Smith, Anna Cooper, Joe Ellington, Bama Ford, Elisha Fry, L. D. Griffith, Flora Ford, Minnie Furry, Lizzie Griffith, Janie Gosnell, Edward Gouckenour, Valeria Gouckenour, Jannie Graves, John Graves, Sarah Hoggat, Della Hoggat Easter, Ida Hawkins, Laura Johnson, John Hawkins, Sadie Hawkins, Levena Harris, Mamie Harris Strahle, Sarah Hood Johnson, Susie Keen, Arma Jewel, Febie Harris, Ira Harris, Ethel Hood, James Luzader, J. B. Nicholson, Lily Nicholson Branam, Bell Mahan, May McClanahan Hamilton, Bert McClanahan, Daisy McClanahan, John McClanahan, Mrs. John McClanahan, Rubie Keifer, Edna Keifer, Mrs. Chas. Maynard, Goldie May Birch, May Nicholson, Emma Strahle, Alvin Stark, Melissa Saunders, Mollie Spears Raley, Noel Starks, Connie Starks, William Stout, Tiny Stout, Rachel Keen, Frank Keen, Bert Saunders, Ethel Saunders, Jess Sheridan, Dave Spears, Minnie Vanhoy, John Merrill, Lue Vanhoy, Erma Vanhoy, Zola Wortman, Gladys Snyder, Cass Stroud, Harry Merrill, Melissa Williams, Delia Stark, Earl Saunders, Ola Saunders, Ida Dorothy, Ollie Pruitt, Lily Pruitt, Emma Branham, Marion Waldorf, Grace Kelly, Grant Dutton, John Stout, Ona Jenkins, George Davls, May Davis, Mrs. Jessie Gosnell, Henry Gage, Mrs. Henry Gage, Mary Keen, Lizzie Keen, Edith Loudermilk, Bert Linton, Tom Loudermilk, Lucy Loudermilk, Mrs. Bert Linton, Goldie



Reins, Harry Woodrow, George Patton and family, Chas. Annis, Luther Williams, George Stanton, Daisy Maynard, Bonnie Maynard, I. S. Klinger, Anna Botts, Mel Dutton, Jane Sharp, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Roy Gilman, Etta Hood, Mamie Stanton, Clara Blair, B. A. Dix, Herbert Davis, Herbert Fuson, Eva Fuson, Jim Smallwood, Nell Stanton, Dotia Stanton, Juliet Spear, Nelson Stanton, Cloe Syester, Hubert Stanton, Pink Stanton, Sarah Stanton, Roda Stout, Mabel Trump, Sam Trump, Josie Weaver, Odie Weaver, Mat Hood, Minnie Harris, Jim Harris, Bettie Hood, Roxa Hutchinson, Edward Griggs, Mollie Griggs, Rosa Payne, Ida Raley, Juanita Raley, Minnie Stanton.

After the removal of the church building to Hymera, the church grew rapidly in membership until recently, when the membership became divided over a misunderstanding in regard to church practices. There are at present two Baptist churches in Hymera.

#### Church of Christ.

The Church of Christ was organized in the summer of 1905. The erection of the church was commenced Sept. 26, 1905 and was completed April 4, 1906. Rev. H. W. Cuppy of Illinois, was the first pastor. Some of the charter members were Mrs. Cora Shoemaker, James Shoemaker, Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Catton, Aron Sluder, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Arthur and Emmet Achman. The present members are: A. Sluder, James Shoemaker, Parmenas Stutsman, A. J. Lambert, Cliff Gilman, H. B. Neal, James Hamilton, Levi Morris, Ward McBride, Joe Huffman, Henry Pirtle, Edward St. Clair, Charles Puckett, A. J. Macy, Ed Walters, Polly Fair, Cora Shoemaker, Girtie Stager, Mary Griffith, Laura Gilman, Lydia Stager, Grace Gilman, Frankie Frakes, Olivia Hamilton, Anna Hamilton, Hanna Hamilton, Dora Railsback, Lizzie Morris, Mrs. Walters, Mary J. Dudley, Beckie Sills, Mae Huffman, Ella Huffman, Ella Mullens, Mae Godfrey, A. McBride, Ethel Baskeen, Luna Pirtle, Mary Dutton, Hattie Woody, Gurtie

Divinie, Lura Benefield, Mary St. Clair, Laine Broddie, Lillie Puckett, Elizabeth Godfrey, Emma Hessler, Jane Sluder, Margaret Wall, Manda Walters, Eliza Scherb, Sattie Stanton, Mary Gilman, Cora House, Maude Sluder, Dolly Sluder, Dot Smith, John York, Boon McKinney, John Godfrey, John Profit, Edgar House, Roy Gilman, Charles Mullins, Roscoe Criss, Creatie McKinney, Jane Everhart, Nora Followell, Myrtle Sluder, Esta Gilman, Phoebe Losson, Ida Graves, Anna Kirkham, Lena Mullins, Mrs. Reynolds, Shella Fair, Esta Criss, Kattie Smith, Sarah Godfrey, Viola Baskeen, Grace Lambert.

Sunday School is held every Sunday at ten o'clock. The Sunday School teachers are Nora Godfrey, Mrs. Cora E. Shoemaker, James Shoemaker, H. B. Neal and Anna McBride.

Church is held every Sunday morning and Sunday night. Bible reading is held every Friday night.

#### Bethel M. E. Church.

The Bethel M. E. Church was organized about 1840. The charter members were William Pitt, Elizabeth Pitt, Martin Hale, Samuel Mahan, Margaret Mahan, Nicholas Cochran, William Mattox, George Asbury, Malinda Asbury and Asa Mahan. The first meetings were held at the home of William Pitt but soon a log building was constructed upon the ground given for that purpose by Nathan Hale, a charter member and local preacher. This building stood about fifty feet west of the present building. Some of the first preachers were: Mr. Jones, James Williams, Marion Heavenridge, Mr. Bowers, George Asbury, Mr. Palmer, Martin Hale, Mr. Wardell and Mr. Harding. Mr. Harding was also a carpenter and built the second church building, in 1871. This was a frame building and stood until 1914. Some of the ministers who preached in this building were John L. Sims, B. F. Julian, J. D. Crane, G. F. Bundy, N. F. Denny, John Ragle, W. F. Russell, Daniel Ryan, L. B. Johnson and M. O. Robbins. The present building was



erected in the summer of 1913. On Dec. 28, 1913, Bishop David H. Moore dedicated the church. M. O. Robbins was the pastor at the time. The building is made of brick and has three rooms. It also has a basement which is used for prayer meetings and social affairs. The church will hold about five hundred people. The total cost of the building was about \$9,000. This church has three hundred and ninety members. The Sunday School has an average attendance of about two hundred. There are one hundred and twenty on the cradle roll, sixty-four in the home department, and an enrollment of five hundred fifty.

Mr. C. J. McAnally has been superintendent of the Sunday School for several years. Mrs. Dessa Robbins is superintendent of the primary department.

#### Bethel Cemetery.

The first burial place in Jackson Township was what is now known as Bethel Cemetery. William Pitt, one of the first residents of this township, gave an acre and a half to be used as a burial place. It is thought by some of the oldest residents of the township today that William McCammish was the first to find a resting place in this home of the dead.

Within a century this plot of ground has been filled with graves until now there is not room for another. Many beautiful monuments have been erected here to help the living to feel that the dead are still with them, at least in memory.

In 1904 a beautiful monument was erected in memory of Nathan Hinkle, a Revolutionary Soldier who is buried in this cemetery. The money to erect this memorial was secured by subscription. The monument was unveiled on October 1, 1904. James S. Barcus, a great-grandson of the patriot, delivered an address, and Mamie Asbury, a great-granddaughter, assisted in the unveiling. The monument is fifteen feet high and represents a Revolutionary soldier at "Parade Rest." The inscription is: "Nathan Hinkle, born June 7, 1749; died Dec. 25, 1848."

There are many other soldiers buried here. There is also one Mexican Soldier's grave in this cemetery. His name is A. A. Hamilton. Some of the Civil War veterans buried here are Henry M. Hughes, Thomas Doty, Dr. Hyatt, John A. Spear, Robert Lyons, Harry Lyons, John McAnally, John Ford, Lyman Ford, Jahn Gambel, Hugh Sebring, Sr., Hugh Sebring, Jr., John J. Mahan, James Jonson, Richard Swift, Uriah Nead, Burr Watson, Abraham Vanderpool, Noah Ring, Jack Clark, One Unknown, S. B. Wardell, William Mahan, John R. Mahan, Lanman Asbury, Ichabod Gilman, William Ammeron and William McCammon.

It is often of interest to the older people to know where their friends and acquaintances were buried. In the busy activities of life we often forget those of our acquaintances whose faces are no longer seen among the throng. Thinking it might be of interest to know who lies in this cemetery, we give below the names and dates found upon the tombs:

Hugh Sebring, Sr., 1876.  
 Hugh Sebring, Jr., 1873.  
 Sarah Sebring, 1893.  
 John S. Sebring, 1893.  
 Martha Pitt Hinkle, 1909.  
 Johnie R. Sebring, 1882.  
 Margaret Watson, 1875.  
 William S. Gillman, 1889.  
 Manerva Gillman, 1887.  
 William M. Gillman, 1862.  
 Claybourn Wood, 1892.  
 Elizabeth Givens, 1889.  
 Katie Bryan, 1877.  
 Hester Thomas, 1862.  
 William Lyons, 1911.  
 J. F. Thomas, 1875.  
 Nancy Woods, 1884.  
 Sibbana Thomas, 1872.  
 Sarah Worth, 1859.  
 Clarissa Worth, 1863.  
 John Worth, 1864.  
 Ephrian McDanial, 1900.  
 Sarah McDanial, 1908.  
 Hattie Norman, 1906.  
 William and Phebla Gillman, 1880  
 A. H. Lyons, 1876.  
 Sarah Lyons, 1913.  
 Doras Lyons, 1874.  
 Robert Lyons, 1872.



Robert Paterson, 1904.  
 Samuel Patterson, 1897.  
 John Patterson, 1901.  
 George Patterson, 1891.  
 Levi Spear, 1875.  
 David Wilson, 1866.  
 John Spear, 1898.  
 Lydia Spear, 1835.  
 William Spear, 1906.  
 James A. Patton, 1867.  
 Adaline Patton, 1863.  
 Elenor Lyons Patton, 1892.  
 Imo Marie Patton, 1897.  
 Ruth Patton, 1898.  
 Julia A. Payne, 1904.  
 Mary Mahan, 1882.  
 Hosea Payne, 1898.  
 Sarah Asbury Payne, 1903.  
 Hattie Mahan, 1889.  
 Winnie Payne, 1879.  
 Eva Baldrige, 1869.  
 Masy Wiman, 1867.  
 Maggie Barnhart, 1874.  
 William Nelson, 1876.  
 James Riggen, 1876.  
 Emma D. McCammon, 1898.  
 Clara McCammon, 1883.  
 Jennie McCammon, 1881.  
 John J. Pipher, 1899.  
 N. E. McCammon, 1888.  
 Margaret Combs, 1873.  
 Mary S. Combs, 1896.  
 Nathan Combs, 1898.  
 Robert Spear, 1911.  
 Ella Spear, 1907.  
 Maggie Spear, 1908.  
 Elizabeth M. Harvey, 1913.  
 Grace Harvey, 1894.  
 Minnie Harvey, 1890.  
 Edgar Harvey, 1881.  
 Mary Harvey, 1870.  
 Elizabeth McAnally, 1906.  
 Herman Ladson, 1888.  
 Floretta McAnally, 1868.  
 Mamie McAnally, 1876.  
 Iva McAnally, 1893.  
 Callie Ford, 1901.  
 Sophie Tuttle, 1870.  
 John Ford, 1885.  
 James Mahan, 1909.  
 Samuel McMullin, 1855.  
 Robert McMullin, 1878.  
 John McDonald, 1906.  
 Miles R. Miller, 1899.  
 Margaret Berlien, 1886.  
 Francis M. Baker, 1900.  
 Lydia Hyatt, 1876.  
 Mary Wardell, 1882.  
 George Wardell, 1878.  
 Milton Wardell, 1878.  
 Hattie Gard, 1901.  
 Fannie Gard, 1903.  
 James Barcus, 1877.  
 Joseph Payne, 1871.  
 John Hiple, 1888.  
 Stella Crichfield, 1899.  
 F. M. Doty, 85th Ind. Infantry.  
 Joseph Canaan, 1875.  
 Ruth Canaan, 1887.  
 Percy McCarty, 1890.  
 Lillie Frakes, 1878.  
 Lucy Cowen, 1903.  
 Chloe Gouckenour, 1895.  
 Anna Gouckenour, 1891.  
 Andrew McAnally, 1900.  
 Philander Craft, 1900.  
 Martha Gouckenour, 1890.  
 V. L. Gouckenour, 1889.  
 Olive Craig Gouckenour, 1893.  
 Horace Myers Gouckenour, 1893.  
 Sarah Kinder, 1905.  
 Rosy Standly, 1892.  
 Adie Standly, 1901.  
 Walter Standly, 1905.  
 Earl Cummins, 1890.  
 Margaret Cummins, 1888.  
 Carrie Davis, 1887.  
 Henry Hughes, 1895.  
 Andrew Pullie, 1893.  
 Bessie Beasley, 1905.  
 Ida Mahan, 1888.  
 John McAnally, 1898.  
 Golda McAnally, 1898.  
 Ethel McAnally, 1891.  
 Mabel McDaniel, 1902.  
 David Russell, 1895.  
 Gertrude Hegne, 1897.  
 Daphnia McAnally, 1895.  
 Lester McAnally, 1892.  
 Burress McAnally, 1892.  
 Nettie McAnally, 1889.  
 Mary McAnally, 1889.  
 David Plugh, 1882.  
 Nancy Plew, 1891.  
 Huldah Richmond, 1886.  
 Walter Richmond, 1883.  
 Julia Richmond, 1888.  
 Jennie Wence, 1884.  
 Gertrude Wence, 1905.  
 William Gritton, 1878.  
 William Gritton, 1891.  
 Elizabeth Gritton, 1900.  
 Bridget Madden, 1888.  
 Julia Shanks, 1879.  
 John Camel, 1873.  
 Burr Watson.





Jona Cummins, 1904.  
 Murty Barnhart, 1879.  
 Tilden Barnhart, 1878.  
 Maggie French, 1884.  
 Amazon French, 1885.  
 Ivii French, 1883.  
 Carl Pierce.  
 Glenn Neal, 1906.  
 Sarah Allen, 1889.  
 Elishia Allen, 1863.  
 John Allen, 1862.  
 Melinda Patton, 1857.  
 Richard Bowman, 1872.  
 Lucy Mahan, 1863.  
 Clara Railsback, 1906.  
 John Mahan, 1891.  
 Victoria Mahan, 1891.  
 Daisy Mahan, 1878.  
 Verdell Railsback, 1910.  
 William Ladd, 1899.  
 Tottie Tipton, 1896.  
 Mary J. Tipton, 1908.  
 James Johnson.  
 Beulah Abbott, 1909.  
 Francis Dorothy, 1901.  
 Sarah Hamilton, 1855.  
 A. A. Hamilton, Mexican War.  
 Sarah McGray, 1878.  
 George Mahan, 1846.  
 Sallie Mahan, 1851.  
 John Mahan, Sr., 1847.  
 Daniel Ring, 1897.  
 Elizabeth Ring, 1879.  
 Arpie Patton, 1891.  
 Willis French, 1885.  
 Margaret French, 1873.  
 W. E. French, 1863.  
 Maggie French, 1890.  
 Mary French, 1892.  
 Percy Kennedy, 1878.  
 Lizzie Heavenridge, 1870.  
 Lucinda Beckett, 1864.  
 Susan Foxworthy, 1860.  
 Reason Beckett, 1856.  
 Harriet Beckett, 1876.  
 Elizabeth Beckett, 1865.  
 Sophia Bowman, 1908.  
 Mary A. Miller, 1880.  
 Lillian Brewer, 1901.  
 Charles Mahan, 1872.  
 Joshua Beckett, 1898.  
 Anna Beckett.  
 Evadna Beckett, 1896.  
 Joseph Beckett.  
 Elizabeth Plew, 1880.  
 Mary Hamilton, 1877.  
 William Hamilton, 1857.  
 Eliza Johnson, 1842.  
 William Harbert, 1857.  
 Bertie Asbury, 1882.  
 Clarissa Hughbanks Zink, 1889.  
 Nancy Hughbank, 1888.  
 William Mahan, 1856.  
 George Mahan, 1847.  
 Sarah Mahan, 1819.  
 Joseph Mahan, 1860.  
 Betsy Ann Mahan, 1860.  
 Thomas Mahan, 1873.  
 Margaret McDaniel, 1870.  
 Sarah Watts, 1887.  
 Noah Ring, 1906.  
 Sarah Ring, 1901.  
 Cora Ring, 1891.  
 Dellie Ring, 1870.  
 Nancy McCammon, 1895.  
 John McCammon, 1899.  
 James McCammon, 1859.  
 Patience McCammon, 1853.  
 William McCammon, 1847.  
 Thomas McCammon, 1846.  
 Nancy McCammon, 1835.  
 Nancy Mahan, 1861.  
 Jerry Mahan, 1878.  
 Jemima Mahan, 1834.  
 Emmeline Mahan, 1879.  
 Rachel Mahan, 1876.  
 John Hughbank, 1854.  
 Oliver Hughbank, 1854.  
 Emma Hughbank, 1870.  
 Lovisa Cochran, 1851.  
 John Prosky, 1859.  
 William Prosky, 1862.  
 Martha Ring, 1857.  
 Loten Ring, 1857.  
 Newton Ring, 1857.  
 Mary Ladd, 1879.  
 Soloman Ring, 1875.  
 Maria L. Ring, 1882.  
 Elizabeth Mahan, 1870.  
 Jeremiah Mahan, 1874.  
 Martha Mahan, 1876.  
 Emma R. Thomas, 1881.  
 Emily Mahan, 1888.  
 Elizabeth Cochran, 1870.  
 Talitha M. Cochran, 1859.  
 Emory Cochran, 1873.  
 Guy Peterson, 1898.  
 Fay Vanarsdall, 1882.  
 Hester Vanarsdall, 1889.  
 Mason Hamilton, 1903.  
 Dorothy Mahan, 1848.  
 William Mahan, 1846.  
 Lucinda Mahan, 1871.  
 George Mahan, 1847.  
 Carolina Mahan, 1854.  
 Emmeline Mahan, 1854.



David Mahan, 1863.  
 William Mahan, 1878.  
 Isalah Branson, 1875.  
 Caroline Branson, 1912.  
 Asa Branson, 1861.  
 Jeremiah Branson, 1861.  
 Nancy Branson, 1865.  
 Charles Branson, 1875.  
 Emma Branson, 1890.  
 Harrison Williams, 1883.  
 Louisa Montgomery, 1863.  
 Damesh Montgomery, 1861.  
 Lucy Plough, 1873.  
 Samuel Hinkle, 1884.  
 Hiram Hail, 1858.  
 Fannie Hinkle, 1859.  
 Nancy Girlingmire, 1865.  
 Robert Girlingmire, 1865.  
 Maggie Girlingmire, 1878.  
 Leonard Girlingmire, 1892.  
 Minnie Shivers, 1877.  
 Jerry Mahan, 1852.  
 Margaret Halberstadt, 1859.  
 William Halberstadt, 1859.  
 Charlotte Halberstadt, 1859.  
 George Mahan, 1862.  
 Blanch Zink, 1900.  
 A. D. Welsh, 1891.  
 William J. Beckett, 1890.  
 Martha Beckett, 1876.  
 Hiram Beckett, 1864.  
 William A. Pitt, 1870.  
 Elizabeth Pitt, 1880.  
 William R. Pitt, 1841.  
 Pheraby Mahan, 1841.  
 Asa Mahan, 1894.  
 Alexander Mahan, 1847.  
 Ella McCammon, 1866.  
 John T. McCammon, 1863.  
 Eliza McCammon, 1876.  
 Burtle Pullis, 1864.  
 Sarah Wence, 1882.  
 Abraham Wence, 1872.  
 Magdalene Wence, 1871.  
 Henry Baker, 1859.  
 Rachel Baker, 1860.  
 Joldjar Baker, 1859.  
 Malissa Brownson, 1856.  
 Abraham Baker, 1859.  
 Catherine Wence, 1856.  
 William Wence, 1854.  
 Henry Wence, 1872.  
 Mitchell Wence, 1854.  
 Mary J. Wence, 1848.  
 Harriet Badders, 1856.  
 Samuel Badders, 1912.  
 Lewt Shivers, 1899.  
 Stella Badders, 1898.  
 Samuel Badders, 1888.  
 Thaddius Cochran, 1841.  
 John Cochran, 1859.  
 John T. Mahan, 1848.  
 Mary J. Mahan, 1842.  
 Parthena Mahan, 1888.  
 Zillah Coffey, 1887.  
 Vivia Coffey, 1885.  
 Mary Hughbank, 1884.  
 Sarah Hughbank, 1884.  
 William Hughbank, 1886.  
 John R. Mahan, 1865.  
 Anna Mahan, 1850.  
 Charles Shivers, 1899.  
 Elizabeth Meeks, 1908.  
 Rebecca Nicholson, 1885.  
 John Nicholson, 1884.  
 Arletta Nicholson, 1873.  
 Maggie Nicholson.  
 Maynard Nicholson, 1882.  
 Loeffler Winckelpleck, 1896.  
 Samuel Hinkle, 1872.  
 Eliza Peterson, 1859.  
 John Hinkle, 1861.  
 Nathan Hinkle, 1848.  
 Rosanna Girlingmire, 1857.  
 David Crawford, 1885.  
 Sarah Linn.  
 Allis Barcus, 1859.  
 Martha Barcus, 1871.  
 Byrl Barcus.  
 Nancy Hinkle, 1901.  
 Clarissa Zink, 1871.  
 Cleveland Zink, 1902.  
 Abraham Vandèrpool, 1904.  
 Denney Clark, 1904.  
 Anna Clark, 1904.  
 Lydia Clark, 1893.  
 Talitha Ammerman.  
 Estella Hinkle, 1901.  
 Elizabeth Ammerman, 1894.  
 William Ammerman, 1872.  
 Uriah Nead, 1873.  
 James Wright, 1858.  
 Richard Swift, 1876.  
 Catherine Scully, 1901.  
 James Scully, 1898.  
 Soloman Bailey, 1903.  
 Minnie Wilkinson, 1888.  
 Hannah Wilkinson, 1892.  
 Maxwell Brown.  
 Lizzie Ammerman, 1888.  
 Blanche Norris, 1896.  
 Laura Stutesman.  
 Harriet Julian.  
 Warner Hall, 1854.  
 Emma Hail, 1884.  
 Warner D. Hail, 1864.



Elizabeth Hall, 1880.  
 William W. Cochran, 1858.  
 Harry Cochran.  
 Webster Cochran, 1858.  
 Laura Cochran, 1870.  
 Allie Marshall, 1895.  
 Dr. Alfred Marshall, 1912.  
 Glennie Branson, 1902.  
 Lyman S. Ford, 1897.  
 Edna Ford, 1880.  
 Lyman G. Ford, 1876.  
 Alice Ann Ford, 1860.  
 John Barnhart, 1882.  
 Margaret Barnhart, 1891.  
 Henry Barnhart, 1876.  
 Margaret McAnally, 1872.  
 Susan Barnhart, 1857.  
 Samuel Mahan, 1860.  
 James B. Mahan, 1865.  
 Nanna McClung, 1855.  
 Elizabeth Nead, 1857.  
 Candacy Nead, 1858.  
 Catherine Lofton, 1901.  
 Augustus Lofton, 1909.  
 Murphy Lofton, 1891.  
 Jessie May Hood, 1902.  
 H. A. Hood, 1901.  
 John Hughes, 1874.  
 Alice Hughes, 1890.  
 Thomas Hughes, 1835.  
 Edward Hughes, 1890.  
 Elizabeth Hughes, 1903.  
 John Hughes, 1874.  
 Angeline Stark, 1893.  
 Edward Marshall, 1892.  
 Eva Marshall, 1894.  
 Mary Marshall, 1883.  
 Charles Lane, 1891.  
 Christina Lane, 1902.  
 Opal May Morris, 1900.  
 Georgie Highfield, 1898.  
 James Morris, 1908.  
 Martha Hughes.

#### The Mines of District No. 8.

There are six veins of coal in this district. The top vein is about sixty feet below the surface in most places. This vein contains a good domestic coal from five to six feet thick. The greater part of it has been used. No. 5 vein is a very good quality of steam coal from three to eight feet thick. This is the vein being worked now. No. 4 vein is not thick enough in this locality to be mined. No. 3 is a good quality of steam coal from four to nine feet thick and very little of it

has been mined. Drillers report that veins No. 2 and No. 3 are block or semi-block coal but none of it has been mined.

Some coal was mined on Harve Wilson's farm before the Civil War. The coal was taken from the side of a hill.

Starks and Coffee mined coal from a slope mine as early as 1873. Very few men were employed in this mine when it was first being worked. The coal was taken to Curryville in wagons and shipped from there because there was no railroad ~~here~~ then. In 1876 another mine was sunk on the same site to another vein. They erected what is known as a gin shaft. A rope was fastened to the cage, passed over a pulley, and fastened to a large wooden drum. The drum was turned by a horse and in this way the coal was raised on the cage.

Butts, Rubley and Buchanan, or the Pittsburg (Hymera) Coal and Coke Company, sunk a mine to No. 6 vein in 1889. It was located near the corporation line south of Hymera. All of the buildings and machinery were modern. About one hundred and fifty men worked in the mine and they were paid one dollar and a half for nine hours work. In 1896 the tipple burned. Each man who worked here donated ten dollars to be worked out at a dollar and eighty cents a day to rebuild the tipple, and clean the mine. In 1897 the mine fell into the hands of a receiver and was sold to Mr. Niblick. In a few months he sold it to Harder and Hafer. In 1899 they sunk to No. 5 vein and in 1901 to No. 3 vein. The mine was dismantled in 1904.

Marshall Zinor sunk a mine to No. 5 vein in 1891. It was located east of the E. & T. H. railroad and in the north part of town. It was called the White Ash or Golden Standard. About one hundred men worked here. They were paid one dollar and a half for a nine hour day. All of the coal was dug by pick work and hauled by mules. In 1902 the buildings burned and another mine was sunk on the west side of



the railroad, a little farther south. In 1897 or 1898 William Murdock, William Britton, Clay Cummins, Jack Dorothy and David Cummins bought the mine. Later other stock holders were taken in, the principal one of which was Mr. Ermine. A short time after this, Mr. Ermine bought the mine. The Consolidated Coal Company bought the mine in 1905 and called it No. 31. The mine was abandoned in 1906 and the tipple torn down in 1910.

Harder and Hafer sunk a mine to No. 5 vein in 1901, west of the town. About three hundred men worked here. They received two dollars and forty cents for an eight hour day. The machinery and buildings were modern and are used here today. The Consolidated Coal Company bought the mine in 1905 and called it No. 32.

Harder and Hafer sunk a mine to No. 5 vein in the winter of 1903-1904. This mine was located south of the town and outside of the corporation. The miners received two dollars and fifty-six cents for an eight hour day. The machinery and buildings were all modern. In 1905 it was sold to the Consolidated Coal Company and called No. 33.

The biographies of some of the oldest residents of Hymera are given below:

#### Nathan Hinkle.

Nathan Hinkle, the oldest citizen and veteran of Hymera, was born in Vermilion county, Illinois, June 10, 1826. When Nathan was about twelve years of age, his father, Samuel Hinkle, moved to Missouri but soon returned to Vermilion. It was in Vermilion county, at a little log school house, and under the strict discipline of a crabbed teacher that Mr. Hinkle received his early education. When about seventeen years of age he came to Hymera with his father who entered land, buying forty acres at first and forty later. He also attended school here in the school house which was located where the Bethel Church is now. After his school days he engaged in the trade of a cooper along with that of farming. When twenty-four

years of age he was married to Martha A. Pitt, daughter of William Pitt who was one of the very first residents of Hymera. In 1861, he enlisted for service in the Civil War in Company I of the Ninety-seventh regiment under Gen. McPherson. Mr. Hinkle was in twenty-two battles and skirmishes. He well remembers the battle of Kenesaw. Col. Catterson had placed him in command of Company I and on the night before the battle the colonel told him they were going to make a charge from Kenesaw Mountain the next day, and that he might do as he pleased as to informing his men about it. Mr. Hinkle thought it right that he should inform them and all that night he says, there were murmurs throughout the camp about the coming battle. Early the next morning they made the charge and during the battle the men of Company I got in advance of the regiment and with'n close range of the enemy. There was a stream at the foot of the hill and so fiercely was the battle fought that the water was red with blood, and the ground thickly covered with dead and dying. The battle lasted from sunrise that morning until two o'clock that afternoon. The Yankees fought hard but were defeated. Those who were living were discouraged but nevertheless thankful for their lives.

Mr. Hinkle served three years and was given an honorable discharge in 1864. He is a member of the Methodist church, also a charter member of the Masonic and Eastern Star lodges. Mrs. Hinkle was also a member of the Methodist church and Eastern Star lodge. She died May 23, 1909.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hinkle were born eleven children, Sarah E., Nancy, Josephine, Fanny, deceased, James, Mary, William, Samuel, deceased, Robert, Henrietta and Horatio.

After the death of his wife, Mr. Hinkle continued to reside at his own home with his daughter, Mrs. Henrietta Beckett. He is familiarly called "Uncle Nathan," and considering his old age, is very active.





### Harriet Moore Brooks.

Harriet Moore Brooks was born in Adams county, Ohio, May 13, 1834. Her father was George Moore and her mother was Elizabeth Stad Moore. Mr. Moore was born in Pennsylvania and Mrs. Moore in Ireland. When she was twenty-three years of age Harriet was married to George Kirkham. To them were born two children, John Kirkham, who married Anna Freeland, and Rachel, now wife of Frank Owens. Both are residents of Hymera. Several years after the death of her husband, Mrs. Kirkham was united in marriage to Mason Brooks. In 1874 they came to Indiana, settling three miles southwest of Hymera. Mr. Brooks died in 1900. Since then Mrs. Brooks has lived with her daughter.

### Mr. John Tipton.

"Uncle John" Tipton, a well known Civil War veteran, was born Feb. 3, 1845, in Coshocton county, Ohio. He was the son of Dr. Joseph and Mahala Nead Tipton. In 1847 he came with his parents to Owen county, Indiana, and his father enlisted in the Mexican War in the same year. When he was sixteen years of age he enlisted as drummer boy in the Civil War on Oct. 10, 1861, in Company C of the 59th regiment of Indiana Volunteers. He served during the entire war, under different generals, and was with Sherman on his famous march to the sea. Some of the battles in which he participated were Island No. 10, Fortress Monroe, Jackson, both battles at Corinth, Pittsburg Landing, Marietta, Kenesaw Mountain, Vicksburg, Raleigh, Goldsboro, Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, and numerous others, some of which were extremely bloody and very fiercely contested.

After the war he returned to Indiana. Soon after he joined the 85th regiment of Missouri State Militia, in 1868, where he was quartermaster for five years. He then went West, was wounded in an encounter with the James Brothers' "Gang," and returned to Indiana. On Nov. 9, 1877, he was united in

marriage to Mary Jane Barnhart, daughter of Henry and Margaret Barnhart. Mrs. Tipton was born May 4, 1855, of German and English ancestry. Mr. and Mrs. Tipton settled on a farm one mile south of Hymera. To Mr. and Mrs. Tipton were born eight children, all of whom are living except the youngest daughter, who died when small. They are Joe, Bernard S., Wilbur V., Mrs. Chloe Keene, Tip, Mrs. Toney Butler, Tottie, deceased, and John Bryan.

On Jan. 8, 1908, Mrs. Tipton died. She joined the Methodist church when quite young. She was also a member of the Rebekah lodge.

Mr. Tipton married Mahala Majors Shepherd April 13, 1911.

### Mr. and Mrs. William McGrew.

William Kirkham McGrew, late resident of Hymera, was born in Kentucky, March 10, 1822. In the same year his parents moved to Orange county, Indiana, where he lived until he was nine years of age. He then moved to Fairbanks township, Sullivan county. In 1853 he was married to Sarah Benefield, daughter of William and Rebecca Benefield. She was born in June in 1833 in Ohio. At the age of one year she came to Indiana with her mother, her father having died in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. McGrew lived on a farm near Little Flock church, of which they were both members, until 1865 when they moved to Sullivan. They then moved to a farm south of Hymera where they have since resided. There were born to Mr. and Mrs. McGrew two children, Maggie and William.

When "Uncle Billy," as he was known, was young, bear, deer and wolves were not unfamiliar sights about his home. When he was grown he became a flat-boatman, often making two trips a season from Terre Haute to New Orleans with a load of pork and corn. The craft he used was sometimes one hundred feet long and was built bottom side up at the river side. It was then pushed into the river and turned over. The rafts were so constructed that they could be torn apart at



New Orleans and sold for lumber. The crew would then return on a packet to Evansville, after seeing the sights in the southern metropolis. There was often danger of cholera in New Orleans. Mr. McGrew used to tell of a sad case of a comrade whom he helped carry from the boat at Evansville in a blanket. He died before they could lay him down. Mr. McGrew became an expert bow hand and made in all about twelve trips to New Orleans. Mr. McGrew died Nov. 18, 1913, at the age of ninety-two years. Mrs. McGrew is still living with her daughter Maggie at the McGrew home in Hymera.

#### B. F. Julian.

B. F. Julian was born in Warrick county Mar. 4, 1836 and came to Sullivan county in 1851. He carried mail from Carlisle to Terre Haute on horseback in 1852. There were no towns between Carlisle and Terre Haute, except Sullivan and Lebanon. He left Sullivan county in 1853 and went back to Warrick county. He was licensed to preach Aug. 10, 1862. On the same day he enlisted for service in the Civil War in Company E of the 65th regiment of Indiana Volunteers. He entered the regular ministry in the Indiana Conference in 1870. He came to Hymera in 1870 as preacher at the Bethel M. E. church. He served one year here, two at Carlisle, and one at Pleasantville. He returned to Hymera as a retired minister in 1895. He then purchased a grocery store. He was appointed postmaster during McKinley's administration and served for four years. On Aug. 23, 1857, he was married to Lucy H. Peck of Warrick county, the daughter of Henry and Nancy Peck. There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Julian nine children. They are Mrs. Susan Alice Austin, Henry, Ira, Mrs. Sarah Bell Pirtle, Nancy, deceased, Mrs. Matilda Beckett, Cora, deceased, John H., deceased, and Walter F. Mrs. Julian died Feb. 1, 1908.

#### Mary Jane Beckett.

Mrs. Mary Jane Beckett was born in Johnson county, Indiana, Oct. 31, 1848. She was married in 1865 to John C. Beckett, who was born in

Kentucky in 1828. They moved to Hymera in 1869. There were born to them seven children: Dorae, Arthur, Charley, Bell, who died June 8, 1876, Della, who died May 29, 1878, Mrs. Myrtle Nicholson and Mrs. Pearl Britton. Mr. Beckett was a carriage maker by trade. He died in 1877. Mrs. Beckett lives at the old home place in Hymera.

#### Mrs. Lucy Payne.

Mrs. Lucy Payne was born in Clay county, Indiana, in 1827. She was married to M. G. Payne in 1855. Mr. Payne enlisted for service in the Civil War in 1865. He was in the 43d regiment. There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Payne two children: Mrs. Nancy Woodrow of Hymera and S. F. Payne of Clay county. Mrs. Payne is at present living with her daughter, Mrs. Harry Woodrow, who moved to Hymera from Lewis township, Clay county, Indiana, in 1905.

#### Biography of Sarah A. E. Hoggat.

Sarah A. E. Hoggat was born in Sullivan county, Nov. 9, 1843. She was a daughter of James M. Piew and Minerva Marlowe, both of whom were natives of Kentucky. Mrs. Hoggat lived four miles northeast of Sullivan in Hamilton township, until the time of her marriage to Mr. Alfred P. Case, March 18, 1860. Mr. Case worked in a sawmill. In January, 1862, he enlisted in the Civil War, in the 59th regiment, Company C. He took part in the battles of Vicksburg and Corinth. After serving two years and three months, he became seriously ill and was allowed to come home on a furlough. He died April 7, 1864. To this union was born one child, Mary E.

Mrs. Case lived with her parents at the old home place until the time of her marriage to Mr. John B. Anderson, March 26, 1866. His occupation was that of farming and mining. To Mr. and Mrs. Anderson were born six children: Alice, James, Sarah, Effie, Mary and Ira. Three are now living, Ira, Mary and Effie. Mr. Anderson died June 14, 1883. On July 24, 1887, she was married to Mr. Stephanas Hoggat. His occupation was that of farming. They lived northeast of Hymera until the time



of his death which occurred Mar. 26, 1913. After his death Mrs. Hoggat moved to Hymera, where she now resides. Mrs. Hoggat is a noted weaver and has woven since childhood days. She possesses a fly shuttle loom, and for sixteen years, this loom has been in constant use. During the first ten years of its use she wove two thousand yards of carpet yearly. Once in a contest she wove sixty-two and one-half yards in ten hours. Two men received the first two premiums but Mrs. Hoggat excelled all the other women and came in for the third premium. The day she was seventy-one years old, she wove twenty-one yards of carpet. Although well along in years, Mrs. Hoggat is still very active in this work and is very fortunate in having good health to aid her.

#### Mr. and Mrs. Parmenas Stutsman.

Parmenas Stutsman, the son of Joseph and Rachel Crist Stutsman, was born Nov. 4, 1844, on his father's farm, three miles north of Hymera. Here he grew to manhood. On March 4, 1875, he was married to Elizabeth Pittman, daughter of James and Irene Pittman. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stutsman lived in Clay county for a time but in 1882 they moved to Hymera, where Mr. Stutsman operated a flour mill which stood where the bank now stands. He sold the mill in 1897. There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Stutsman five children. They are Emma, Mrs. Mary Julian, Laura, deceased, Dr. W. H. Stutsman, and Eunice.

#### Mr. and Mrs. Levi Morris.

Levi Morris was born April 4, 1843, in Floyd county, Indiana. He enlisted in the Civil War in 1861 and served four years. He was married to Amanda E. Wilson on August 26, 1866, who was born September 20, 1842, in Orange county, Indiana. To this union were born four children, James, deceased, Oliver, and two infants who died shortly after their birth. Mr. Morris and family moved to Hymera in 1890. Mrs. Morris died November 5, 1912. Mr. Morris is at present living in Hymera.

#### Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Asbury.

Joseph Asbury was born in Fleming county, Kentucky, Oct. 3, 1847. He was the son of Walter and Elizabeth Bowman Asbury. He received his education at Mt. Pleasant school house. In September, 1864, he enlisted for service in the Civil War. He served in Company F, of Eighty-fifth regiment of Indiana Volunteers under General Thomas.

In September, 1874, he was married to Josephine Hinkle, daughter of Nathan Hinkle. She was born in 1852 in Hymera, in a log house which stood where the Barnhart hotel is now. She attended school at Hymera and later attended what was called the Normal School taught by Captain Crawford and Mr. Hays at Farmersburg and Sullivan and later became a teacher. She taught first in Cass township in 1872 and later in Jackson township at No. 3 and No. 8. Mr. and Mrs. Asbury built and lived for a time in the house where Mrs. Thralls now lives. Later they moved to Fairbanks and Jasonville and then to Hymera.

Mr. Asbury formerly followed the occupation of blacksmith but in 1894 he was elected trustee of Jackson township and served two terms. He also served as commissioner for six years. Mr. and Mrs. Asbury have eight children living: Claude, Carl, Thurlow, Stella, Maimie, Conrad, Vilas and Lizzie.

#### Mrs. J. A. Spear.

Mrs. Lydia A. Criss Spear was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, Nov. 6, 1835. Her father, Isaac D. Criss, was born in Ohio and her mother, Susanna, was born in Philadelphia. When eight years old, she came with her parents to Augusta, Carl county, and after living there two years, they moved to Owen county. Here Mrs. Spear lived until her marriage to J. A. Spear on Sept. 14, 1851. In November, 1861, he enlisted in the war and served in Company A of the Fifty-ninth regiment of Indiana Volunteers. He was with Sherman on his march to the sea. He served in the war three and one-half years.

Shortly after the war, Mr. and



Mrs. Spear settled on a farm one mile northeast of Hymera. Here Mr. Spear died August 17, 1898. Two years later Mrs. Spear moved to Hymera with her family and located near the Baptist church. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Spear: James (deceased), Celestia (deceased), Louisa, Oliver, Anna, David and William H. (deceased). Mr. and Mrs. Spear are both members of the Christian church.

#### Caroline M. Mahan.

Caroline M. Mahan was born in Jackson township, near Hymera, Feb. 11, 1842. She is the daughter of Michael and Clarissa Hughbanks Zink. Her father came to Jackson township with his parents when thirteen years old, and at the time of his death in 1888 he owned two hundred eighty-eight acres of land, the accumulation of his own personal efforts and industry. Her mother died in 1892. Mrs. Mahan received her educational training in Jackson township. On June 4, 1865, she was united in marriage to James Mahan, who was born in Mason county, Kentucky, Dec. 20, 1830, and who was a son of Jerry and Jermina (Browning) Mahan, both of whom were born in Kentucky. To Mr. and Mrs. Mahan were born two children, Mason M., a miner in Hymera, and Clara, deceased wife of Richard Railsback. Mr. Mahan died Sept. 19, 1910. Since his death Mrs. Mahan has continued to reside at their present home in Hymera. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Hymera.

#### Mrs. John Harve Mahan.

Mrs. Melinda Sills Mahan was born in Jackson township, north of Hymera, Feb. 11, 1844. She is a daughter of Nathan and Mary McCanish Sills, both of whom were born and reared near Louisville, Kentucky. In 1825 Mr. Sills came to Jackson township and entered land north of Hymera near No. 5 school house. It was at a little log school house just north of their home and at the time when the teacher "boarded around" with her pupils, that Mrs. Mahan received her educational training. On Sept. 23,

1864, she was married to John Harve Mahan, son of Thomas and Betty McCammon Mahan. During his life time, Mr. Mahan followed two occupations, that of a farmer and a merchant.

On Nov. 3, 1863, just a short time after his marriage, Mr. Mahan enlisted in Company A of the Ninety-seventh regiment of Indiana Volunteers. In the last decisive battle, a shell pierced his shoulder, giving him a serious wound. He was in the hospital at New Orleans for three months. After his recovery he was sent to Galveston, Texas, and the warm, unhealthful climate so injured his health that he never fully recovered from its effects and remained an invalid the greater part of his life. After thirteen months of service he was given an honorable discharge in December, 1864. He died November 3, 1914.

Mrs. Mahan continues to reside at their home in Hymera. To Mr. and Mrs. Mahan were born seven children: Ida (deceased), Audrey, Rescoe, Ira (deceased), Joseph O., Eugene B., and Bessie (deceased).

Mr. Mahan was a charter member of the Odd Fellows lodge at Hymera and both Mr. and Mrs. Mahan are members of the Methodist church.

#### Levica Jane Eppert.

Levica Jane Penrod Eppert was born in Athens county, Ohio, Feb. 12, 1845. She was a daughter of Jacob and Mary Penrod, both of whom were also born in Athens county. When four years of age, Mrs. Eppert went with her parents to Iowa. While crossing the Ohio river the steamboat on which they had taken passage was pierced by a snag and began to fill rapidly with water. Fortunately they were over half way across the river and within sight of the shore. All were nervous and excited. They kept the boat from sinking by pumping out the water and keeping the opening filled with bedclothes and other heavy articles. They managed to get ashore but the boat with all their belongings sank. The captain proceeded to leave immediately so that he might not be obliged to give back





the money which they had paid for passage, and so they were left on the wharf in a very deplorable condition. After a week they continued their journey, traversing the greater part of the remaining distance in a covered wagon. They crossed one more river, but with much better success than before.

When Mrs. Eppert was fifteen years of age, she came with her sister to Cloverland, Indiana, her mother having died when she was ten years old. She lived there until her marriage to William H. Eppert. He was born in Clay county and was a son of Peter and Mary Elston Eppert, both of whom were born in Ohio. He was a miller. In 1895, Mr. and Mrs. Eppert came to Hymera. After three years in the mill here he gave up that occupation and became a baker. He died Nov. 23, 1911.

To Mr. and Mrs. Eppert were born seven children: Edward, John (deceased), Fred, Mary, Harry, Daisy, and Clifford.

#### Mrs. Margaret Spear Patterson.

Margaret Spear Patterson, daughter of Robert and Margaret McBride Spear, was born in Gurnsey county, Ohio, June 11, 1837. Her father was born near Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and her mother in Ireland. When fifteen years of age Mrs. Patterson came to Spencer, Owen county, Indiana, and lived there until her marriage to Henry Jordan, April 19, 1859. His occupation was that of a farmer. On Feb. 21, 1861, he enlisted for service in the army in Company B of the Thirty-first regiment. In the battle of Fort Donelson he was wounded and seven days later he died in Paducah hospital, Tennessee, and was buried before Mrs. Jordan had even heard of his death. Shortly after his death, she went to her brother's home in Illinois and lived there two years, after which she returned to Spencer and lived there for a period of ten years. On Jan. 27, 1874 she was united in marriage to John Patterson, a farmer and miller. Mr. Patterson died February 15, 1901. While living in Ohio he was a member of the Ma-

sonic lodge and was a member of the Presbyterian church. Mrs. Patterson has two children: Carrie Jordan Roush who lives in Clay county, and May, with whom she has resided since the death of her husband. Mrs. Patterson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

#### Mrs. John McClanahan.

Mrs. John Richmond McClanahan was born at Ashtabula, Ohio. She is a daughter of Walker and Hulda Badger Richmond, both of whom were born in Ohio. When Mrs. McClanahan was three years of age, they moved to Illinois. They lived there five years after which they moved to Sullivan and then to a farm east of Shelburn. Here Mrs. McClanahan lived until her marriage. At the time of Lincoln's assassination Mrs. McClanahan was living in Sullivan and she has a vivid remembrance of the train passing through covered with mourning and of the great disturbance and sensation that the death of the great president caused in that town. On May 9, 1872, she was united in marriage to John T. McClanahan, son of Joseph D. and Zerrilda Anderson McClanahan who, in 1847, came to Curry township and settled on a farm near Shelburn. Mr. Joseph D. McClanahan was a companion of "Uncle Billy" McGrew on his trips on flatboats down the Mississippi river to New Orleans and Evansville.

In 1889 Mr. and Mrs. John McClanahan came to make their home in Hymera. Mr. McClanahan was a carpenter by trade. He constructed the first tipple of Mine No. 34, the oldest mine in Hymera.

To them were born three children: Alfred, who married May Badson, Herbert, who married Daisy Eppert, and Hulda May, wife of Mell Hamilton, all of whom are at present residents of Hymera.

Mr. McClanahan died Sept. 29, 1914, and Mrs. McClanahan continues to reside at their home. He was a charter member of the Masonic lodge of Hymera and a member of the Baptist church, to which Mrs. McClanahan belongs.



#### Thomas J. McAnally.

Thomas J. McAnally, son of John and Mary Hernden McAnally, was born in Franklin county, Indiana, Jan. 3, 1844. He had five brothers and two sisters. The brothers living are James, William and Carey. The family moved to Curry township when Thomas was fifteen years old. He went to the Civil War when twenty years of age. He served from Oct. 12, 1864, till July 21, 1865, as a private in Company E, 85th regiment, Indiana infantry, and as a private in Company H, 33d regiment. After the war he resumed his occupation as a farmer and when twenty-four years old married Elizabeth J. Payne, who was born and reared in Jackson township. To this union were born two girls, Pearl and Floretta. The latter died when small. The family moved to Jackson township about 1870, where Mrs. McAnally died June 24, 1906.

#### John Harve Mahan.

John Harve Mahan was born Nov. 25, 1836, in Jackson township. He went to school in the old log school house in Hymera, where he received a fairly good common school education. His occupation the greater part of his life has been that of a cooper and carpenter. He was married to his first wife, Mary Jane Coplan, in 1855. She did not live long and in December, 1868, he married his second wife, Angeline Coble. She died in 1910. Their children that are living are Albert, Mary, James M., Arlie and Harry E. The ones that are deceased are Ida L., Oscar, Nora, Charles R., Orville, Harly and an infant. Mr. Mahan is now seventy-eight years old and in good health.

#### Dean Cummins, Sr.

V. D. Cummins, Sr., a son of John A. Cummins and Mary Crist, was born in Terre Haute in 1842. When six years of age he came with his parents to Centerville and later to Curryville and lived there until sixteen years of age. On Mar. 10, 1863, he enlisted for service in the Civil War and was honorably discharged Mar. 16, 1864. He married Minerva Watts. To this union were born eight children: Frank, Dean,

Wint, Laura, Mary, Delbert, Jesse and Charles. After the war Mr. Cummins farmed until 1874, when he was elected trustee of Jackson township and served for eight years. He was then elected recorder and served until 1898. He later engaged in the marble industry.

#### John Snowden and Wife.

John Snowden was born Dec. 17, 1845, in Alleghany county, Pennsylvania. He enlisted in the Civil War in February, 1864, in Company C, 59th regiment of Indiana Volunteers. He came to Hymera in 1863. On Dec. 3, 1868, he was married to Elizabeth Wilson, who was born Sept. 9, 1846, in Sullivan county. Three children were born to this union: Cordelia, Cassy and Francis. He moved to Illinois in 1871 and returned to Hymera in 1907 and still lives here.

#### Mr. and Mrs. John A. Ward.

Rev. John A. Ward, a retired Methodist minister, was born in Rock Island county, Illinois, Dec. 25, 1839. In 1847 he moved with his parents to Putnam county, Indiana. He began teaching at the age of twenty-one and after teaching for two terms he enlisted for service in the Civil War in 1862, in the Seventieth regiment of Indiana Volunteers, and served till June, 1865.

After returning from the war, he entered the Methodist ministry and was ordained at Bloomington in 1870. He served as a minister at Francisco, Shoals, Fredericksburg, Corydon, Greenville, Salem, Sullivan, Washington, Mooresville, Rockport, Bedford, Vincennes, New Albany and College Corners. He was Presiding Elder of the Rockport District.

In 1906 he retired from active service as a minister and with his wife moved to Hymera where they have since lived. Mrs. Ward was born in Guilford county, North Carolina, April 5, 1838. Mr. and Mrs. Ward are the parents of seven children: Laura, Charles, Ella, Frank (deceased), Harry, John and Walter.

#### Mrs. Melissa Sanders.

Mrs. Melissa Stark Sanders was born April 9, 1844, in Clay county, Indiana, where she grew to woman-



hood. She was married in 1864 to James Sanders who was born Sept. 9, 1844, in Clay county. Mr. Sanders enlisted in the Civil War in 1861 and served throughout the war.

There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Sanders eight children, of whom six are living: Mrs. Jenny Love, Mrs. Maggie Carnahan, Bert, Earl, Everett and Earnest.

Mr. Sanders entered the ministry of the Missionary Baptist church in 1893. The family moved to Hymera in 1903 and in 1904 Mr. Sanders was elected to the office of township trustee, but served only a few months, dying March 7, 1905. At present Mrs. Sanders is living in Hymera.

#### Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzo D. Sink.

L. D. Sink was born in Ohio, Nov. 11, 1842. He was the eighth of thirteen children. He with his parents moved to Steubenville, Owen county, where he attended school. At the age of eighteen he had to give up his school to help support the family. After being out of school seven years he secured a license and taught school in his neighborhood for about ten years.

Mr. Sink came to Jackson township in 1880 and purchased the farm on which he now lives. During the Civil War Mr. Sink served as a private in the Thirty-third regiment of Indiana infantry for four months, having enlisted in March, 1865.

In February, 1865, he was united in marriage to Hannah Kelley, a daughter of Harrison and Louisa Kelley of Jackson county, Indiana. To them were born eight children: Sarah, Charles, William Grant, Lillie, Marietta, Bessie, Cora and Clarence (deceased).

#### Biography of Dr. and Mrs. Thralls.

Dr. and Mrs. R. T. Thralls came to Hymera about 1879 when it was a struggling little village with a store, postoffice, blacksmith shop and six or eight dwelling houses. Dr. Thralls was born in Vigo county, Mar. 26, 1854. Mrs. Thralls, formerly Miss Mary Bird, was born in Edgar county, Illinois, Mar. 12, 1855. They were married in May, 1875. After

the doctor graduated from the Indianapolis Medical School in March. Their living children are John and Urban Thralls, Mrs. Agnes Vanarsdall and Mrs. Winnie Tennis. Barnard died when a young man. Dr. Plew and Dr. Thralls attended school together. Dr. Plew graduated one year later than Dr. Thralls. They were fast friends and practiced medicine together for thirty years. Dr. Thralls held the office of State Senator representing Sullivan and Knox counties in the Sixty-third General Assembly. He was one of the three physicians in that body. He died Dec. 19, 1913.

#### George F. Plew.

George Franklin Plew, a physician of Hymera, was born July 6, 1848, in Sullivan county. He was reared on a farm four miles northeast of Sullivan. When eighteen he entered Ascension Seminary at Farmersburg and after his graduation taught school for several years. In June, 1872, he began the study of medicine. He graduated from the Rush Medical College of Chicago, Feb. 15, 1876. He began the practice of medicine in Hymera in the same year. In 1877 he was married to Miss Flora Welty, a daughter of Dr. Welty. To this union was born three children: Raphael, Clifford H. and Homer Baxter. Dr. Plew was a partner in business and an intimate friend of Dr. R. T. Thralls. He could tell us many interesting stories of his early practice, when physicians were few and far between, but he declines to do so.

#### Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Nicholson.

Mr. S. H. Nicholson was born in Jackson township in 1846 and has lived near Hymera all his life. In 1864 he joined the army. He was married Feb. 22, 1868, to Arletta M. Hinkle, who was born in 1849 and died June 1, 1873. To this union was born three children: James, Calvin and Maggie. He was married on Sept. 13, 1874, to Martha McCammon Lyons, who was born April 3, 1847, and was the mother of one child, Ida, now Mrs. Henry Botts. To Mr. and Mrs. Nicholson were born six children: Earl,



Wood, Manard, Hattie, now Mrs. John Engel, Nan, now Mrs. Will Winklepleck, and Della, now Mrs. Claude Plew.

#### Sarah C. Gilbert.

Sarah C. Gilbert was born in Edgar county, Illinois, June 27, 1852. Her early life was spent on the farm in Edgar county. She was married June 18, 1878, to George A. Gilbert. He was a merchant. He began business in Dudley, Illinois, and lived there until his death, December 31, 1899. Shortly after the death of Mr. Gilbert, the family moved to Hymera, where the sons went into business as merchants.

There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert five children. They are Stella, Oscar, Alfred, Henry and Helen.

#### Carey McAnally and Wife.

Mr. Carey J. McAnally, a Civil War veteran and well known resident of Hymera, was born in Brooksville, Indiana. He was the son of John and Mary Herndon McAnally, both of whom were natives of Franklin county, Indiana. Mr. McAnally lived in and near Brookville until 1857 when he came with his parents to Sullivan county and settled near where the St. Clair mine is now. He lived there for a time but later moved to a farm near Currysville, where he lived until the Civil War began. On Jan. 1, 1864, he enlisted as a soldier in Company H of the Eighty-fifth regiment of Indiana Volunteers and was with Sherman in his famous march to the sea.

He was married in 1872 to Narcissa Payne, daughter of Hosea and Sarah Asbury Payne, both of Sullivan county. Later Mr. and Mrs. McAnally moved to Hymera where they have since resided. To them were born seven children: Ivah and Mayme, deceased, Roscoe, Daisy, Hallie, Floy and Banis.

In 1905 Mr. McAnally was appointed postmaster of Hymera and continued in the service of the government until 1915. Mr. McAnally is superintendent of the Sunday school at the M. E. church where he and his family hold membership.

#### Jim Luzader.

Jim W. H. Luzader was born in Bruceville, Knox county, Indiana, Sept. 5, 1839. He was a son of G. W. A. and Nancy Harrison Luzader. When he was about seven years old, Mr. Luzader came with his parents to Sullivan and here his father followed the occupation of a tanner. Here Mr. Luzader learned the trade of a cabinet maker under Howard and Moore and worked there for six years until the outbreak of the war. In October, 1861, he enlisted in the service in Company D, forty-third regiment of Indiana Volunteers. He was in the army for three years, ten months. His time expired at the end of the third year but he re-enlisted at Little Rock, Arkansas, for the remainder of the war. At various times he was under Gen. Steele, Gen. Prentiss, Gen. Solemn and Gen. Gorman.

He was in the expedition with Gen. Banks when that general started to Shreveport, Louisiana, to capture the city, but unfortunately they were captured themselves. They were taken as prisoners to Camp Ford Tyler, Texas, and held there for ten months. There were six thousand in the prison and their food consisted of corn meal and corned beef. The prison was enclosed by a very high palisade and guards were stationed without. There was no covering overhead so that they received the rain and the sunshine alike. They were afflicted with the scurvy and numerous other diseases and numbers of them died.

Mr. Luzader gives an interesting account of how some of the prisoners escaped from the prison. He says there was an old negro who carried the rubbish and garbage from the prison yards in a railroad dumping cart and the Yankees made a personal friend of him. So when the old negro would come for the rubbish the prisoners would put two or three of their number in the negro's cart, cover them over with a blanket, and put the rubbish on top. Many times did he pass the guards unmolested. The old negro was kind and always went to the trouble of taking the rubbish quite a dis-





taunce so that when he dumped it he might also safely dump the Yankees. This scheme worked well for quite a while, but there were men in the prison who would report things to the guards that they might gain favors themselves. So the guards became suspicious and many times would stick their swords through the rubbish, but it seems as if fortune favored them for when the sword went down there was never a Yankee, but when the guards let the old negro go by unmolested there was usually a Yankee.

Mr. Luzader himself escaped from the prison but in quite a different manner. There was a hospital about a mile away from the prison and some of the Union men who were captured were put on parole and allowed to remain there and help take care of the sick and wounded. However, these men were allowed to visit their fellowmen in the prison and bring them a few necessary articles. Now Mr. Luzader had a friend who was on parole and who came to the prison to bring soap. Mr. Luzader secured his parole and forged one for himself and three companions. Therefore when it came time for the men who were on parole to return to the hospital Mr. Luzader and his three companions presented their paroles to the guards and passed out also. They then went to the hospital and their captain who was then on parole, advised them to stay there that night for he had heard that there was a chance of their being exchanged within a few days. They also remained the next day and played ball with the Confederate men, but having heard in the mean time that they would not be exchanged, they thought it best to set out that night. Their plans were to reach the Sabine river the following night. They had a compass and also were guided by the stars, the moss and the trees. The next morning as they were cooking their meat some hunters passed along with their dogs. They eyed them rather curiously and asked a few questions, but on receiving satisfactory answers they

passed on without further words. The runaway prisoners then thought it best to be moving on. That day and also the next they made considerable progress. They always avoided the towns and part of the time they were in hiding. The third night they reached the Sabine River, where they found an old skiff. This they calked up with leaves and grass the best they could and started across the river. This proved to be a difficult task for there had been a heavy rain and the river was swollen. Fortunately there was a holly bush which grew far out over the water and by means of it they managed to pull themselves ashore. They had no more than started again when they heard the baying of dogs. They then made for a swamp and remained in it from ten o'clock in the morning till ten that night, so that the dogs might lose scent of hem.

After the dogs had been called off they proceeded to go farther but they were doomed to disappointment, for they had not gone a great distance until they were met by the Confederates. There was nothing else to do but admit that they were Yankees and runaway prisoners. They were then taken to Mount Pleasant, Texas, where they would have been placed under guards, but that after having their word of honor that they would not try to escape they were placed on parole. They enjoyed themselves here and went to several parties given in the neighborhood. However they were always back and in their rooms at an early hour. One of Mr. Luzader's companions had a knack for getting things to eat and as the Confederates had a negro cook he managed to coax the old negro into giving them many a good meal on the sly. While they were here the slaves were auctioned off and the Provost Marshal asked them to come down to the court house and witness the auction, assuring them that they would not be asked any insulting questions, but that the people were curious to see what a Yankee looked like. The captain then asked them what they thought of the auction. Mr. Luzader replied that



he had seen auctions before but that this one would be the last one. At the end of ten days they were placed under guards and started back to their old prison. They fared well going back for they were under the protection of the Confederates and it was not a hard matter for a Confederate to get either food or shelter in that country. When they arrived at the prison they were sent before the commanding officer, Col. Sweet. They knew that it would never do for them to say that they had forged a parole so they all told the same story, saying they had climbed over the stockade on a dark, rainy night. They were sent back to prison but three weeks later they were exchanged for Confederate prisoners and taken to New Orleans where they donned new suits and

were allowed to go home. Some of the other battles in which he took part were Ft. Doneldson, New Madrid, Poison Springs, Little Rock, Memphis and Island No. 19.

After his return from the war Mr. Luzader continued to follow the trade of cabinet maker in Sullivan, with Crawley and McKinley. Later he worked in the coach department for a period of ten years. It was in 1889 that he came to Hymera and became a funeral director. He followed this occupation until the year 1915. There are not many families in Hymera and vicinity with whom he has not come in contact in the time of death. He is now living a retired life and although well along in years he is yet very active and is fortunate in having the best of health.



# Chapter 10. District No. 9.

R Allan 21	H. Wallace 7785	L. Turing 12	C. H. Harding 80	L. D. Patton 3950	D. L. Bakrege 4050	Melissa Wardell 40
G. B. Peterson 1073		25				
J. Berlingmier 3135	J. Nelson 40	A. Ryd 20		C. F. Patton 40	40	J. Harding 20
A. Myers 11	F. Treanor 17	M. Treanor 15	J. C. McDaniel 15			C. Nicholson 20
C. McGarvey 40	R. Peterson 40	Mary Peterson 20	Pierce 40	E. Thompson 82		J. Wheat 40
W. A. ... D. L. ... A. ...	Deering Coal Co 32	W. M. Anally 20				
J. ... D. L. ... A. ...	J. Forbus 32	C. L. ... H. ... J. ... R. ...	G. Thompson 39	Thompson Heirs 27 1/2	20	H. Gard 34.25
J. ... D. L. ... A. ...	Deering Co 23	W. P. Peterson 39	D. Everly 40	M. Mahan 80	L. Mahan 20	M. Mahan 40
H. Barnhart 7730	1750 G. B. Hill	E. ... 20	R. D. Williams 20		Charles Mahan 40	C. I. Coal Co 40
	Deering Co 23	J. Rainey 30	20		40	
	West Jackson Hill Coal Co 350			W. E. Sparks 40		A. J. Cutler 160
			Madge Patton 120			

District No. 9 is not an agricultural district, although a great deal of farming is done. It contains several mines and its inhabitants are chiefly miners. The district has one gravel road two miles long which runs across the center of the district from east to west. It was built in 1899. This district was settled in the early part of the last century. It is not definitely known who the very first settlers of the district were but the records show that Abraham Plew entered land here in 1830; Thomas Manwarring in 1831; Richard Register in 1841; Solomon Manwarring in 1842; H. Peacock in 1843; and F. Curry in 1843. Some other pioneers were Nicholas Cochran, Jerry Mahan, Jacob Halberstadt, George

Nelson, Leander Berlingmier and Willis French.

In the early days there were many wild animals here as elsewhere in the township. A story is told of the killing of a panther in this district. Mr. Sam Curry, a well known hunter, with a few of his neighbors, was cutting some wood in the forest. While they were working a panther crept up close to them. Upon seeing it the men climbed up some trees and left Mr. Curry alone. Fortunately he had a large hunting knife with which he finally killed the panther in the fight which followed. The men then resumed their work, just as though nothing had happened.

On Mr. Wallace's farm, in the



northwest corner of this district, there is a low field where the deer used to come at night to a "lick." The ground was so salty that no weeds or grass would grow there. The men of the neighborhood had a scaffold made so that they could hide in the trees. They used to go there before dark and climb the trees and watch for the deer. If a deer was coming in from the opposite direction to the wind, it usually could smell the scent of the person watching and would go away. Many deer were killed here.

A former resident of Jackson township tells the following story about himself:

"I took the advice of Greeley in the early seventies and landed in the west to hew out my fortune. I built myself a log cabin and went to clearing up the timber and brush in a circle around the cabin. I had cleared quite a distance back and was very busy chopping, when I heard a noise. On looking around, I saw a bear coming for me with a savage snarl. I dropped my axe and bolted for the cabin. Such "going" would be hard to describe! At that juncture my wife came to the door of the cabin and began to yell, "Run Jim! run Jim!" emphasizing her words a little more each time, thinking to encourage me, but I needed no encouragement, for surely I was making the run of my life. I landed face down in the middle of the cabin and my dutiful wife slammed the door shut in the bear's face. She then began to tell me how she had feared for my safety. I said to her, 'Did you ever think that I would fall down on a deal like that?'"

The first school house built in the district was made of logs and stood on the farm belonging at that time to Nicholas Cochran, but which is now owned by Ezra Thompson. It was built by subscription in 1850. It was heated by a large fireplace and the seats were puncheon. Willis French in 1860 hired a carpenter to make a seat with a back and gave it to the school as a present. The first trustee who hired teachers for

this building was James Plew. Some of the first teachers were Charles Wallace, J. A. Plew, W. Hatfield and L. Grant.

The second school house was built in 1870. The township at that time had been redivided into districts two miles square. This school house was later moved away and used as a dwelling house.

The third school house was a brick building. It was partly destroyed by a storm which made a large crack on the east side. This made it both unsafe and uncomfortable for the children. In 1907 a large frame building was erected, yet it was not large enough to accommodate all the children. During the years 1911, 1912 and 1913 a school wagon conveyed the children of the sixth, seventh and eighth grades from this district to Hymera. The hauling of the children was discontinued in 1914, the attendance having been decreased on account of the closing of the mines.

The men from this district who enlisted for service in the Civil War were W. Marshall, John Nelson, Jack Mahan, T. Mahan, Robert Montgomery, Henry Hughes, W. Nelson and Henry Barnhart. Mr. Barnhart is the only one still living.

The first mines in this district were slope mines. One known as the Hinkle mine was situated on W. Peterson's farm and is now used as a manway to the Wilfred mine. J. Plew and Mr. Frost were managers of a slope mine on the farm now owned by Dell Everly. Another was on the W. McAnally farm and was operated by Mrs. Dix and J. McAnally. Another on the Pierce farm was operated by J. McAnally, W. McAnally and W. Moore.

The Hillside mine is situated on Mr. Thompson's farm, one-half mile east of the Wilfred mine. In 1904 the Baker Brothers bought the coal under twenty acres of land and opened the mine. They owned the mine for a few years, then sold it to Mr. City and Mr. Little. City and Little operated it only a short time, and then let it go back to the Baker Brothers. Mr. Frank Bolt and sons.





who are the present owners of the mine, bought it from the Baker Brothers in 1913. The present process of mining is pick work, although there has been a punching machine used in the mine. The vein of coal being mined is number six, about thirty-five feet from the surface, and it is a good quality of bituminous. The average output per day is twenty tons. The mining price is \$1.00 for screen coal, the selling price is \$1.50 for lump, \$1.25 for nut and \$.50 for slack. There are six men employed and the mine is worked throughout the year, if possible. But if the season is very dry the pond sometimes goes dry, and this makes it very difficult to supply water. They are sometimes forced to quit work for a short time.

#### The Wilfred Mine.

In the year 1900 an option was taken by Paul Wright on the land in this locality for the purpose of sinking a mine. He bought six hundred acres of land at thirty dollars an acre, Mr. Thomas Manwarring being the first to sell. After the coal was obtained the Wilfred Coal Company under the management of Harman, Freeman and Black of Indianapolis, began drilling. Three prospective holes were driven to No. 5 vein but No. 6 vein was the most profitable, so in July, 1902, the mine was begun and was completed by Christmas of the same year. The No. 6 vein here was found at the depth of ninety-eight feet and proved to be a good quality of bituminous.

About thirty houses, all on the same plan, were built by the company for the use of the miners. The railroad switch was built by the company but was later taken by the E. & T. H. Railroad Company. The greatest output of coal at this mine was one thousand one hundred and fifty tons per day, although the average output was seven hundred tons. The price of mining the coal varied from time to time but usually ranged from thirty-two to sixty-three cents per ton for screened coal. There were about one hundred and fifty men employed the first year but later the average number employed

was about two hundred and twenty. The price of labor inside was from \$2.56 to \$2.84 per day.

This mine had few strikes. The longest one was caused by the issuing of checks instead of money. There have been a few accidents that have been fatal to some of the men employed. Some of the men who lost their lives here were Elmer DeLap, Mr. Batson, Mr. Trueblood, George Patton, and Harvey Marlow. After operating this mine for two years the Wilfred Coal Company sold it to the Deering Coal Company who operated it for four years. Later it was leased by the Brazil Block Company and operated by them for four years. It was then leased by the T. Wooley Coal Company who operated it for two years or until the coal was worked out. It was abandoned in April, 1914.

#### The Oak Grove Church and Cemetery.

About the year 1895 Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. Elijah Peterson, Mrs. Clara McAnally and John D. McDaniel, organized a Sunday school which met in No. 9 school house. Mrs. Clarke Richardson was one of the first superintendents. Ministers came from other churches and preached here, for they had no regular preacher, at this time. In 1897 the old log house of the Presbyterian church at Baldridge was moved here. One acre of land just east of the railroad on the north side of the road was deeded by Mr. William Halberstadt for the church lot. When the log house was moved it had to be repaired. This work was donated by the people of the community. It was bought by the donation of the people. When the Wilfred mine was sunk the coal company traded one acre of land to the church for the coal which was under the lot where the church house stands. This acre was used as a cemetery. After the new church building was complete they organized a United Brethren church and this building became known as the Oak Grove U. B. church instead of a union church as before. Some of the first ministers were Willie Hal-



berstadt, now minister of the U. B. church at Terre Haute, Newton Royar, of Clay City. Rev. Harbet, Rev. Miller, Rev. Eliot, Rev. Brandenburg, Rev. Forewood and Rev. Schoonover were later ministers. Rev. Fouts is the present minister. The church was at first in the Lower Wabash Conference circuit, but is now in the Indiana Conference, Washington District circuit. There have been no prominent gatherings except the regular quarterly meetings. There has always been a good Sunday school connected with the church. In the year 1908 there were fifty-two new members added to the church. Rev. Brandenburg carried on the revival. There are now only sixty-eight members, several having been removed by letter and a few by death.

The graveyard is north of the church house. There are not many graves in it. On account of the coal being taken out underneath, several have been taken up and buried elsewhere. There are but two stones, those of Claude Halberstadt and Roy McLennan's baby. All other graves are marked by wooden or stone slabs.

#### Mr. and Mrs. George B. Peterson.

Mr. George B. Peterson, or "Uncle George" as he is better known, was born in November, 1842, in Franklin county, Indiana. He came with his parents to Sullivan county when he was seven years old, and located in Curry township, near Ebenezer church. He came to Jackson township a few years later and has lived here ever since, except fourteen years he spent in Illinois. He was married to Lydia Barnhart September 13, 1864. She is still living and is sixty-seven years old. Mr. Peterson's occupation is that of a farmer. He has had a few years experience as a coal miner. He worked in No. 31 mine at Hymera (later No.

34), when he first came to Jackson township. He became a charter member of Oak Grove church when the class was organized. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are both in very poor health. They have no children.

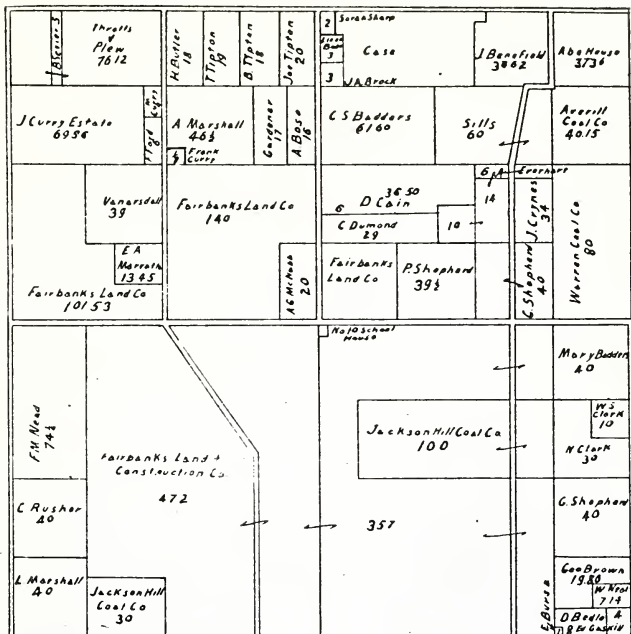
#### Mr. and Mrs. Henry Barnhart.

Henry Barnhart, a son of Henry and Margaret Barnhart, was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, April 23, 1843. In the fall of 1847 his father moved to Owen county, Indiana, where he lived for six years. In 1853 his parents moved to Sullivan county, one-half mile south of Hymera. Mr. Barnhart has lived in Jackson township ever since. He was drafted to serve in the Civil War, October 14, 1864, in Company A, of the 57th Regiment of Infantry. He was wounded and taken prisoner at Franklin, Tennessee. He came home in the fall of 1865. On Oct. 2, 1868, he was married to Emily Jane Zink, daughter of Michael and Clarice Zink. To them have been born six children, four girls and two boys. In the fall of 1868 he became assessor and served for two years. Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Hinkle Nelson.

Nathan Hinkle Nelson was born in Vermillion county, Illinois, August 10, 1848. At the age of three years he came with his parents to Jackson township. When he was four years old his father died and his mother found it very difficult to rear her large family. His opportunities for education were limited. He attended school at the Plew school house at the time when the school was only three months long. At the age of twenty-four he was married to Amelia E. Harding, daughter of a local preacher. There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Nelson four children. They are Margaret, Helen, Mary and Charles. All are living but Charles, who was killed in the tile factory in November, 1914. Mrs. Nelson died March 10, 1910.



# Chapter 11. District No. 10.



District No. 10 is very rough and broken, although there is some good farming land. This section of the township has more mines than any other section. Mining is the principal industry, although some farming is done.

This district was settled in the early part of the last century. It is not known just when the first settlers came to this district. However, the records show that in 1829 Michael Ring entered a tract of land in this district. Land was also entered by James Smith in 1832, by Adam Wilson in 1837, by Ezekiah and Stephen Shepherd in 1837, by Thos. and George Shepherd in 1838, by Francis Johnson in 1838, and by Wabash and Erie Canal Company in

1847. Some other old residents were Daniel Ring, Hosea Payne, Soloman Manwarring, Jacob Wyman, W. N. Patton, J. Patton and Milton Willson. The first school house in this district was built in 1855, and was made of logs. Some of the first teachers who taught here were Mr. Gant, Mr. Wolfenberger, Leander Botts, Mr. McMullen, Mr. King, Miss Sallie Canan, Miss Susan Johnson, Miss Mary Jane Ford, (now Mrs. Curry), George Ford, Miss Divine, U. E. Nead, and J. Marlowe. The names of some of the families whose children attended here are Marratta, Shepherd, Hays, Welty, Gaskell, Patton, Johnson, Ring, Ford, Everhart, Campbell, Hamilton, Nead, Marshall, Hughes, Wyman, Wright, Zink, and



Payne. "Spelling Bees" and debates were held in this school house during the winter evenings. A Sunday school was conducted here during the spring, summer and fall of each year. The second school house, a frame building, was built in 1872 southwest of the old log house. This building is still standing and is used as a dwelling house. The third building used for a school house was a Jackson Hill Coal Company house at Jackson Hill. This was rented because the second one was too crowded. The last school building built in this district is the present brick building, built in 1897.

The first mill in this section of the country was built by Richard Clam-pitt about the year 1829. It was located southeast of Hymera and all the grinding done for a large section of the country was done at this mill.

The saw-mill known to old residents as the "Larr Mill" was located on the forty acres which Abe House now owns. This mill was moved here in 1867 from Merom by the Larr Brothers, by six oxen. It was operated here for two or three years and then moved to Hymera and located on the ground about where the opera house now stands.

Later the Moore and Winterwood Mill was located at Abbott. It was operated from 1890 to 1900. It was owned by George Bledsoe, and later by Earl Shields. It cut about ten thousand feet of lumber a day. It furnished timber for the neighboring mines and also shipped some lumber.

The soldiers who enlisted from this district were John Ford, M. Johnson, John Everhart, John Nead, William Campbell, Jake Nead, Uriah Nead, and George Ring, who is still alive. John Nead, William Sills, Jake Nead and Uriah Nead were in Captain Holdson's Company in the ninety-seventh Regiment, Company I. John Nead died in Mississippi in 1863. Singleton Marshall enlisted from Washington county, but lives in district No. 10 now.

#### **Jackson Hill Presbyterian Church.**

In 1903 a series of tent meetings

were conducted in Jackson Hill by the Rev. Van Deventer which resulted in the organization of a Presbyterian church at that place. The charter members were Mrs. Ellen Wright, Nannie Spinks, Isabel Rettich, Catherine Rettich, Mrs. Ella Buckling, Vica Ferguson, Nanthus Bryant, William C. Wright, Gertrude Spinks, Otto Lane, and J. H. Needhammer. The church was known as a branch of the Clayborne church. A building was erected here in 1903. Some of the ministers who preached here were Mr. Houser, Mr. Stephenson, Mr. McKaye, Mr. Crabtree, Mr. Smith, Mr. Worl and Mr. Moore. Some additions to the membership of the church were Foreman Lambert, Mrs. J. H. Needhammer, Mrs. Ralston, Eva Laffoon, Sarah Blevins, Lillian Osborne, Area Wolford, Nellie Laffoon, Anna Williams, William Laffoon, Mary Ralston, Mrs. Eliza Blevins, Ada Boles, Garland Nead, Louise Boles, Goldie Blevins, Sarah McCarty, Harry Peacock, Sarah Peacock, Rebecca Peacock, Agnes Steele and Maud Dorman. The meetings of the church were discontinued in 1912. During the year 1914 the Apostolic church has been holding services in the building. The minister is Mr. Eddington.

#### **The First Coal Mine.**

The first coal mine in this district was located northeast of the present school house. This was at first a slope mine. The coal was discovered by Noah and Henry Ring, sons of Daniel Ring, when digging in the ground for a ground hog. After the slope had been worked for some time there was a shaft sunk on top of the hill. This was operated many years. This mine supplied coal for many miles around. Many wagons came from Illinois to get coal. This mine was first operated about 1845 and was operated until about the year 1874.

#### **Jackson Hill No. 1.**

The first mine that was sunk by the Jackson Hill Coal and Coke Company was known as Jackson Hill No. 1. It was sunk in 1881 and was operated for about fourteen years. It was located west of where the





town of Jackson Hill now stands. This mine shipped coal out of the district and was the first railroad mine in the district.

#### **Jackson Hill Mine No. 2.**

This mine was located southwest of Jackson Hill Town. It was sunk in 1899. When work was at its best this mine employed two hundred and twenty-five men, and the output was over nine hundred tons of coal per day. In August 1913 a dust explosion occurred which injured thirty men and killed five. The dead were Mr. Ralston, Mr. Phipp, Mr. Keyser, Mr. Batson and Mr. Leonard.

#### **Shepherd Slope Mine.**

The slope mine located on the forty acres of Porter Shepherd's farm south of Jackson Hill, was operated by Greensbury Shepherd from 1855 to 1858. The coal was sold all around the country and wagons came from Illinois for coal for the blacksmiths. Then George and William Shepherd operated the mine from 1898 to 1904. It was called the "Amdrucanda."

#### **Hinkle Mine.**

The mine which is known as the Hinkle mine is located on the farm of Alabama Marshall. It was sunk by William Hinkle about 1902. The mine was operated by him for nine years. Then it was sold to Frank Bolt, who had it for two years. Then Lee Sink bought it and operated it about a year. Joe Syester owns it at the time of this writing. The first vein mined was No. 6, then it was sunk to No. 5 vein.

#### **Jackson Hill No. 3.**

Jackson Hill No. 3 mine was sunk by the Jackson Hill Coal and Coke Company in 1901. No. 3 vein of coal was worked. The mine was operated a year and then stopped on account of gas and bad roof. There were from seventy-five to eighty men employed here and the output of the coal per day was about six hundred tons.

#### **Hamilton Mine.**

The "Hamilton Mine" was sunk in 1903, by the Hamilton Coal Company, one mile northeast of Jackson Hill No. 2. The Andrews Coal Company owned it from 1905 to 1907;

the Diamond Coal Company leased it for two years, and the Averil Coal Company operated it from 1910 to the beginning of 1914. The coal was from No. 3 vein. The number of men employed here was about two hundred and the output of coal per day was about eleven hundred tons. There was a gas explosion in this mine on December 23, 1905. The explosion was caused by two inexperienced workmen. Nine men were injured. There was no work at the mine for several days on account of the fire. The mine is not working at present.

#### **Steam Shovel.**

No mining industry in Sullivan county is attracting as much attention as the strip mine of the Warren Coal Company on the Greensbury Shepherd farm a half-mile northeast of Jackson Hill No. 2. It was opened for operation in the summer of 1913. Although the industry is young, the mine at the time of this writing is working every day and furnishes steady employment to from fifty to one hundred men. The peculiar attraction about the strip mine is that the coal is mined from the surface, a steam shovel being used to upturn the coal from a few feet underground. The dirt is taken from over the coal by a large steam shovel. Then the coal is taken out and loaded into small cars by a small steam shovel. When the "cut" is made and the coal is taken out, the dirt is scraped back into the cut and a new cut is made. The coal is hauled to the railroad switch by a small engine and there is screened and loaded into the cars for shipping. The working of the shovel has proved an attraction to hundreds of persons and many "outsiders" visit the mine every day to watch the shovel work. Experienced coal men estimate that this mine is good for five years at least. No. 7 vein is being mined and the company operating the mine is on the lookout for other land in the community where the coal lies near the surface. This is the first and only strip mine in Sullivan county. The mine is under the direction of William Stewart, an ex-



perienced coal man as superintendent. The first coal was shipped last spring. The company has offices near the mine on the old Shepherd homestead, where a hotel also has been established.

The biographies of the oldest residents of the district are given below:

#### Singleton Marshall.

Singleton Marshall was born in Washington county, Indiana, June 1, 1828. He was the son of Ambrose and Cynthia Marshall. The mother was reared near Albany, Indiana, and was of Scotch-Irish descent. The father, a native of Kentucky, was of English descent and came to Washington county when about ten years old. Ambrose Marshall followed farming all his life and died in Washington county.

Singleton continued to live with his parents until he was twenty-one and during the following three years worked for his father. After his marriage he bought a farm in Washington county but sold it after six years and rented for three years. He bought one hundred and sixty acres near where he now lives. Here he lived until 1890, then he went west for a better location but finding nothing better than his land in Indiana, he came back and lived on a rented farm for a short time. He then bought a tract of land near Hymera but afterwards, on account of ill health, he went to Arkansas and bought two hundred and forty-seven acres in that state, two hundred of which he yet owns. He spent the winters there for several years but now makes his home with Mrs. Marshall, a daughter-in-law, in Jackson township.

In August, 1850 Mr. Marshall was married to Mary Allen. Eleven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Marshall. They are Robert, deceased, Martha, deceased, Dr. Alfred Franklin Marshall, deceased, Mary Jane, wife of William Lucas of Denver, Colorado, Emma, wife of Douglas Marshall, Julian, farmer of Jackson township, Laura, wife of John Nead of Hymera, Ona, wife of Chas. Rusher, Oliver, who was killed by a

train near Hymera in 1901, Eva, deceased, and Edward, deceased. Mr. Marshall is a member of the Methodist church. He is now eighty-six years old.

#### Mrs. Greensbury Shepherd.

Eliza Jane Shepherd was born Mar 10, 1838, in Ireland. She was the daughter of Orr and Nancy Martin Snowden. When three years old she came from Ireland to Pennsylvania and lived there until 1852, when she came with her parents to Sullivan county, Indiana. On March 5, 1861 she was married to Greensbury Shepherd. To them were born nine children, Josephine, George, Wellwood, Porter, Montford, Maimie, Nellie, Virginia, deceased, and one child that died in infancy. Mr. Shepherd died October 30, 1897. Mrs. Shepherd now lives on her farm south of Hymera.

#### George Ring.

George Ring was born in Kentucky, February 15, 1838. His father farmed here until George was eight years old and then moved to Indiana. His father was killed on the way to Indiana to pay for his farm. He lived with his mother until his marriage to Catherine Featherline. Their children are Bell, who died when small, Mrs. Henry Henry of Hymera, Mrs. Elizabeth Terry of Jackson township, Joe, now living in Illinois, Mrs. Lulu Rogers of Terre Haute, Mrs. Retta Shanasta of Terre Haute, Mrs. Nancy Andrews of Terre Haute, William, of Hymera, and Orlie, deceased. George Ring lived with his daughter, Mrs. Terry, in Hymera until his marriage to Mary Ann Burress. He is now seventy-seven years old.

#### Mary Ann Ring.

Mary Ann Secrest Ring was born in Virginia, October 10, 1837. Her father was a plantation owner in that state. He moved to Indiana when Mary was eight years old. They moved here in wagons, where her father bought a farm, in Jackson township. When nineteen years of age she was married to Elisha Burress. Mr. and Mrs. Burress lived in many different places on account of Mr. Burress's work. He



was an engineer. To Mr. and Mrs. Burress were born eleven children Jane, Bettie, Dan, Rose, Jim Charles, Lewis, Beulah and Ida, deceased. Mr. Burress died September 3, 1901. She lived with her children until her marriage with George Ring. She is now seventy-eight years old.

#### Mr. and Mrs. James Brock.

James Brock was born in Ohio, December 7, 1850. His mother and father moved to Indiana in 1860. His father was a carpenter and a farmer. Mr. Brock's father is still living in South Dakota and is eighty-seven years old. He came from Scotland when a boy. Mr. Brock also has one uncle living. The two brothers and the father were all of the family that came from Scotland. Mr. Brock married Angeline Thomas in 1872. Mrs. Brock is Welsh. She was born in Kentucky, May 21, 1846. There were three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Brock, Minnie Woodall, of Putnam county, Sallie Sharp, of Jackson township and Rose Crelber, of Clay County. Mr. and Mrs. Brock have twenty-five grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Brock's fathers were both soldiers in the Mexican War. Mr. and Mrs. Brock moved to Jackson township in 1903, where they still live.

#### Mrs. Mary Jane Curry.

Mrs. Mary Jane Ford Curry was born in Noble county, Ohio, April 15, 1849. Her father, John Ford, was one of the multitude which crossed the great Western Plains by ox teams in the latter part of the year 1849 to seek their fortune in the gold fields of California. He returned five years later, without having found much gold and bought property in Spencer, Indiana, to which place he proceeded to move, his family, consisting of a son, Lyman, by a former marriage, his wife Carolina, and their children, George and Jane.

The family came down the Ohio river by boat from Marietta to Cincinnati thence by railroad to Spencer.

Mr. Ford and a business partner engaged in the undertaking business in Spencer. The caskets they used were made by Mr. Ford, who was an

expert wood worker. Two years later the Fords again moved westward, settling this time one and one-quarter miles south of the present town of Hymera, on a farm purchased from the Wabash and Erie Canal Company. An old orchard and signs of a well mark the spot where the old home stood. A little store was kept in one room of the log house.

Mr. Ford made and operated the first sorgum mill in this section of the country. The entire mill, even the gearings, were made of wood.

Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ford after they left Ohio, Callie, Alabama and Flora. Callie and George are now dead.

Mr. Ford was a man of considerable military experience. He served in the regular army, in the Mexican War, and in the Civil War. He died in 1885. Mrs. Ford was a gentle, sweet spirited, hard working, settler's wife, a mother esteemed by all who knew her. She died in 1892.

The Ford children went to school at the Township House north of Hymera. George, Jane and Alabama also attended the famous Ascension Seminary under Captain Crawford at Farmersburg. All three afterwards taught school. Jane first taught at the Park school house in Cass township, and later at the Ladd school in district No. 7, Jackson township. She was married March 26, 1874 to John Harvey Curry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Curry of Curry township. They began housekeeping on a farm in Cass township, where they lived three years. They then moved to the Woodrow farm east of Coffee Postoffice in Clay county. In 1877 they moved back to Jackson township and bought a part of the place which Mr. Ford purchased from the Canal Company. A home was erected and the task of clearing and paying for the farm was under way when in 1889 the house and all its furnishings were destroyed by fire. This loss, with the subsequent redoubled efforts and consequent exposures on the part of Mr. Curry to provide for his family brought on an attack of the tu-

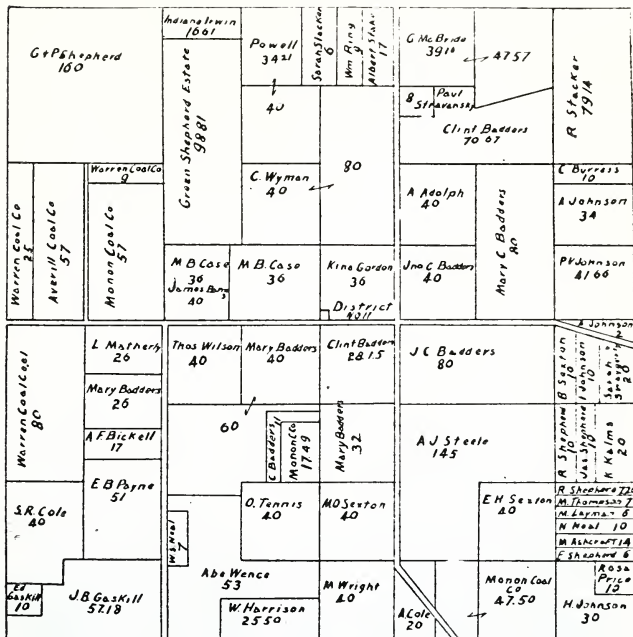


berculosis which resulted in his death in 1892.

Six children were born to Mr. and

Mrs. Curry. Ray, the oldest, met a sudden death in a railroad crossing accident in 1900. Frank, Joe, Jesse, John and Ethel are living.

## Chapter 12. District No. 11.



District No. 11, is in the extreme southeastern part of the township. The land is rolling and well adapted to farming yet the mining industry has put farming more or less in the background. The district contains three miles of good rocky roads—two miles running east and west through the district and one mile running north and south. These roads were built in 1905 and 1906 by Mr. Ersigner, contractor.

The first school house in the district was built of logs about 1838 and was located west of the present

school building. Some of the students who went to school in this building were Mrs. Greenbury Shepherd, Mrs. Mary Badders and Mrs. Tressa Cole. Two of the teachers were Washington McMillan and Charles Grant. The second building was a frame one and was located across the road south of the present building. The first teacher who taught here was James Stark.

From 1890 to 1894 there was a postoffice in this district. It was known as Eagle and the postmaster was Samuel Cole.





The soldiers who went to the Civil War from this district were ——— Matherly, John Snowden and Mr. Barnes.

#### **The Badders Mine.**

The Badders or Sima mine is situated about one mile southeast of the Hamilton Blocks. The mine was built by the Sima Coal Company in 1902 but is now owned by the Monon Coal Company. The coal in this mine was a fine quality of bituminous coal of No. 3 vein which was about two hundred and seventy feet from the surface. The mine is now abandoned and the buildings are in a dilapidated condition. George Pugh was killed at this mine. He was hoisted to the top of the tippel where he became entangled in the sheave wheel and was killed.

#### **Hamilton Blocks.**

The little mining camp known as the Hamilton Blocks was built in 1903 to accommodate the men who were employed in the Hamilton mine in District No. 10. An addition was built to the camp in 1913. There are in all twenty-four houses. Since the abandonment of the mine here, the men who live here are employed at the Lattis Creek mine and the Warren Coal Company's strip mine. There are at present about fifteen families living here.

#### **Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Cole.**

Mr. Samuel Cole was born in Greene County, Indiana, August 23, 1845. He later came to Sullivan county and married Tressa Snowden who came from Ireland to Pennsylvania, January 27, 1841. In 1853 she came to Sullivan county, Indiana. In 1894 Mr. Cole became a notary public and in 1890 was made postmaster of the postoffice known as

Eagle, which he held for four years.

#### **Jacob Cumson.**

Jacob Cumson was born June 28, 1848, the son of James and Early Cumson. He was married October 13, 1838 to Sarah E. Lambright, daughter of Henry and Mary Jane Lambright. To this union was born one child, Mrs. Libbie Cumson Badders. Mrs. Cumson died in 1908.

#### **Mary Badders.**

Mary Badders was born March 8, 1832 in Ireland, the daughter of Orr and Nancy Snowden. She came to Pennsylvania when about eight years old and lived there until 1852 when she came to Sullivan County, Indiana with her parents, settling one quarter of a mile west of where she now lives. Her father and mother both lived in Sullivan County until their death. The father died in 1879 and the mother in 1899. She was married June 8, 1858 to Samuel Badders who was born in Columbia county, Ohio, January 6, 1827, a son of James and Christina Badders. They moved to Ohio just after the war of 1812 but in 1829 returned to Pennsylvania where they spent the remainder of their days on a farm in Beaver county. Mr. Badders secured his education in the district schools of Pennsylvania and studied book keeping at Duffs Commercial College at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. He followed book keeping for several years and in 1857 came to Sullivan county. He died May 24, 1912. Ten children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Badders. They are Mrs. Indiana Irwin, of Arkansas, John C., Mrs. Marietta Case, Samuel Burton (deceased), Clinton S., Mrs. Lewtl Shivers (deceased), Mrs. Wm. Gordon and Harry M., of Arkansas.



### CHAPTER 13.

#### Present Glimpses and Future Prospects of the Agriculture of Jackson Township.

Written by Co. Agent, A. W. Hayes.

The status of a farming section is usually measured by crop and live stock returns, farm improvements and educational attainments. In considering and measuring for an ideal, a future possibility; soil characters, crop and stock adaptation, markets and educational outlook are vital factors. Under the present conditions, Jackson township can be classed only as an average farming section; but, when one considers possibilities, and looks to future

future of worth, calling for the best of thought and skill.

#### Soils.

The soils of the township have nearly all been extensively timbered, and, with the exception of the bottom lands, are quite deficient in organic matter; consequently they puddle easily and allow crops to suffer much from drouth and excessive rainfall. The land along the streams is usually rolling to undulating and of a yellow to a yellow gray silt loam. Much of this soil is eroded so badly that it should be kept in permanent pasture. The larger portion of the township is composed of a very desirable type of soil, which, when carefully handled, is very responsive to fertilization and cultivation. Several things of great economic importance relative to profitable and permanent farming on the soils of the township are to be kept in mind. Most of the land is in sad need of drainage. This will mean, in many cases, properly laid tile drainage systems. There are very few farms, indeed, in the township which will not be benefitted by a rational system of tile drainage. In fact, they will not attain their highest and most remunerative productive capacities until they are drained. Acid or sour soil conditions is causing much present difficulty in securing stands of red clover. Alfalfa will refuse to grow until the soil is made sweet. Most of the land of the entire township is now acid. A liberal application of ground limestone (two to four tons per acre every four or five years) is the cheapest and best method of restoring the soil to its original sweet condition and helping to insure successful crops of clover and alfalfa. The farmers have no one to blame but themselves for not using limestone consistently and regularly. It can be had in numerous places over the township simply for the grinding, as there are fine outcrops of a high grade stone in the township. The stone at Alum Cave is especially accessible, also stone on the Gordon farm near Hymera.

Soil analysis and crop returns show the average of the farmed



A. W. HAYES, County Agent. development, all signs point toward much better things than are now being enjoyed. The solidity, strength, and perpetuity of Jackson township lie in the intelligent development of her soils, live stock, homes and schools, and in the maintenance upon her farms of intelligent, thrifty men and women, who see in agriculture a



lands to be very low in phosphorus and nitrogen. These two important elements may be applied through growing more legume crops, such as clovers, cowpeas, and soybeans, and plowing them under, or the manure made from them; also, all plant refuse, such as cornstalks and waste straw, with good heavy applications of a phosphate fertilizer such as bone meal, rock phosphate, or acid phosphate. At least one fourth of the cultivated area of every farm should have such treatment every year.

#### Live Stock.

Jackson Township does not keep a high enough grade of live stock; not enough hogs and cattle are fed on her farms; and not enough good producing brood mares are kept in her pastures. It costs very little more to feed and care for an animal of good quality than it does a scrub or mongrel. The well-bred animal always has a market and is a constant source of satisfaction to its owner. Great possibilities are open in the way of live stock improvement especially in raising standards in horse, hog and cattle breeding.

#### Orchards.

There is no fruit which tastes so good or means so much to one as the fruit grown on his own proverbial "vine and fig tree." With this thought in view, the fruit growers and farmers should at once plan to give more attention to their fruit resources. Most of the orchards are in need of thorough pruning, spraying, and cultivation. San Jose scale has been making serious inroads on the apple, peach, and pear trees, and unless headed off by careful spraying will lay waste to such fruit raising. The gently rolling to undulating soils yield an excellent quality of tree and bush fruit when given proper care and attention.

In things of an educational nature pertaining to better farm conditions, the people of the township are showing much interest and giving good support. An annual one-day farmers' institute is held in the fall at Hymera. Local talent helps on the program with the assistance of Pur-

due University Extension workers. Last year the membership of the institute approached the hundred mark with several hundred in attendance. Mr. C. C. Bosstick, is the present chairman. In the fall of 1913 a Better Farming Association was organized and Mr. F. M. Nead chosen chairman. It held numerous meetings at different school houses over the township, all of which were well attended. During the past year it has been more or less inactive.

The township is to be congratulated on the successful poultry association it maintains. Two excellent poultry shows have been staged at Hymera during the past two winters. This association is doing an incalculable amount of good in raising the standards of breeding and feeding poultry. Something of its nature could and should be worked out with other lines of live stock raising.

During the past year agriculture has been taken up in all the grade and country schools and made a definite topic of study. The work is new to the teachers and pupils and methods of teaching it are somewhat vague. Nevertheless, considerable worthy progress has been made, and indications are favorable to an excellent future in the study. The township high school has been developing a high school course which has been efficiently managed by Prof. J. P. Curry.

#### The Corn Club.

The first boys' acre corn growing contest was organized in the spring of 1914. A good number of boys joined, but only four completed the work. The following boys made good records in the project: Ralph Gordon, Frankie Gouckenour, Virgil Woodard, and Clarence Rigen. As a prize for township winners in the corn club the Sullivan business men awarded a free trip to Purdue University to the one week course held in January. This was won by Clarence Rigen. He succeeded in growing on his acre of land seventy two bushels of corn at the low cost of \$.125 per bushel. What this boy did during the dry season of 1914 shows to the thoughtful farmer of



Jackson township some of the possibilities of applying science and care to the development of agriculture.

The past eighteen months have recorded considerable interest over the township in better farming plans. A well attended wheat production meeting was held on Isaac Brown's farm in the month of August. Mr. J. C. Beavers of Purdue University addressed the audience on wheat improvement. Two large seed corn selection meetings have been held; one in the fall of 1913 on the Patton farm east of Hymera, and the other in the fall of 1914 on the Riggen farm north of Hymera. In March, 1914, an enthusiastic miners' and gardeners' meeting was held in Hymera, and a result of discussions developed, forty tons of ground limestone were purchased and used upon some of the acid garden soils of the town. Ollie Pruitt, Chas. Vandersdall, F. M. Nead, John Thralls, Jack Dunlap, Henry Patton, P. Stutsman, Wint Cummins, V. D. Cummins and Geo. Cravens were some of the users. Ollie Pruitt is one of the foremost believers in this material for soils of Jackson township. He made a remarkably fine record from its use on a quarter of an acre of garden truck.

Wint Cummins is taking a leading position in working out for his farm, a profitable and systematic plan of soil building. He has applied several car loads of ground limestone to the soil, is commencing to grow clover, and other legumes which are to be plowed under with rock phosphate.

No good reason exists for the hindrance of a steady, normal growth of progress and advancement on the farms of the township. The future for the young man or woman is bright and holds out for them just as good opportunities as can be found for the use of brains and active service in any other section of the land.

#### FRANK M. NEAD

Ex-Trustee of Jackson Township.

Frank M. Nead was born in Jackson township, October 16, 1858, on the farm he now owns southwest of

Hymera. He is the son of John Nead and Nancy Tipton Nead who came from Ohio and settled on the farm now owned by Mr. Nead. In August, 1862, his father enlisted for service in the Civil War and served in Company I of the ninety-seventh Regiment of Indiana Volunteers. After being in the service but one year he fell sick and died, August 31, 1863 at Camp Sherman on the Big



FRANK M. NEAD.

Black river between Vicksburg and Jackson, Mississippi, where he was buried with military honors. Mr. Nathan Hinkle and Mr. John Keene were with him when he died and assisted at his burial. His body now rests in the National Cemetery at Vicksburg, where it was removed by authority of the federal government in 1867. Mr. Nead's mother was a teacher and taught for eleven years in the schools of Ohio and Indiana. She died in 1896, and is buried at Bethel cemetery. Frank was the oldest of three children and but five years old when his father died. He attended at what was known as the Ring School House, at first in the old log house which burned in 1868 and later in the frame building. He



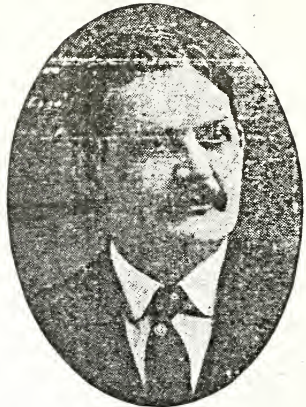


later attended the grade schools of Hymera, Farmersburg and Sullivan. He taught his first school in Curry township, Sullivan county. He received twenty-eight dollars a month for teaching his first term. He taught in all fourteen years. In 1893 he retired from the teaching profession and became a farmer. In 1894 he was elected township assessor and served for five years. In 1905, after the death of Mr. James Sanders, he was appointed by the commissioners to serve as trustee for the remainder of Mr. Sanders' unexpired term. In 1908, he was elected to serve a second term as trustee. In all he served as trustee for ten years. In 1911 he built and equipped for the township the beautiful High School building in Hymera. He joined the I. O. O. F. at Sullivan in 1882 and became a charter member in the lodge organized at Hymera the following year. August 22, 1883, he was married to Adaline Payne, daughter of Hosea and Sarah (Asbury) Payne. To Mr. and Mrs. Nead there were born four children. They are Conza (Mrs. Moreland), Garland, Holmes, and Esther. Mr. and Mrs. Nead are at present living in Hymera.

**MR. AND MRS. W. J. WILLIAMS.**

Present Trustee of Jackson Tp.

Mr. W. J. Williams, the present trustee of Jackson township, was born in Wales, May 5, 1866. He came to America with his parents in 1870 and settled in Ohio. His father and mother both died soon after coming to America and the son was



**W. J. WILLIAMS.**

left alone in the world. At the age of nine he was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Baker, who soon moved from Ohio to Pennsylvania. In 1888 he was married to Jenny Blease. In 1906 Mr. and Mrs. Williams moved to Carlisle, Indiana, where they lived for three years. They then moved to Hymera, where they have since resided. Mr. Williams has been a miner all his life, and after coming to Hymera he was employed as mine boss until January 1, 1915, when he began his service of trustee of Jackson township. To Mr. and Mrs. Williams have been born five children: Wesley, Lloyd, Herbert, Thomas and Elizabeth.













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R. MANCHESTER,  
INDIANA 46962

